



# EDINA MINNESOTA

## City Council Meeting Agenda

February 4, 2026, 7:00 PM

Edina City Hall, Council Chambers, 4801 W. 50th St.



### Participate in the meeting:

Watch the meeting on cable TV or [YouTube.com/EdinaTV](https://www.youtube.com/EdinaTV).

Provide feedback during Community Comment by calling 312-535-8110. Enter access code 2630 114 5136. Password is 5454. Press \*3 on your telephone keypad when you would like to get in the queue to speak. A staff member will unmute you when it is your turn to speak.

### Accessibility Support:

The City of Edina wants all residents to be comfortable being part of the public process. If you need assistance in the way of hearing amplification, an interpreter, large-print documents or something else, please call 952-927-8861 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

#### 1. Call to Order

#### 2. Roll Call

#### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

#### 4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

#### 5. Community Comment

During "Community Comment," the Mayor will invite residents to share issues or concerns that are not scheduled for a future public hearing. Items that are on tonight's agenda may not be addressed during Community Comment. Individuals must limit their comments to three minutes. The Mayor may limit the number of speakers on the same issue in the interest of time and topic. Individuals should not expect the Mayor or Council to respond to their comments tonight. The City Manager will respond to questions raised during Community Comments at the next meeting.

##### 5.1. City Manager's Response to Community Comments

#### 6. Adoption of Consent Agenda

All agenda items listed on the Consent Agenda will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of items unless requested to be removed by a Council Member. If removed the item will be considered immediately following the adoption of the Consent Agenda. (Favorable roll call vote of majority of Council Members present to approve, unless otherwise noted in consent item.)

##### 6.1. Minutes: Work Session and Regular for Jan. 20 & 26, 2026

6.2. Payment of Claims

6.3. Purchase Request: Bulk Road Salt

6.4. Purchase Request: Watermain Pipe Corrosion Control Study

6.5. License Supplement for Verizon Small Cell Infrastructure

6.6. Purchase Request: First Due Software Subscription Renewal

6.7. Purchase Request: Braemar Ice Arena Phase 1 – South and East Rink Improvements

6.8. Waive Permit Fees for Braemar Ice Arena Phase 1 – South and East Rink Improvements

6.9. Ordinance 2026-01: Setting Morningside Water Rates

6.10. Purchase Request: League of Minnesota Cities Annual Membership Dues

6.11. Out-of-State Travel for Mayor Hovland

## **7. Special Recognitions and Presentations**

7.1. Arden Park 2025 Project of the Year by the MN Association of Watersheds

## **8. Public Hearings**

During "Public Hearings," the Mayor will ask for public testimony after staff and/or applicants make their presentations. The following guidelines are in place to ensure an efficient, fair, and respectful hearing; limit your testimony to three minutes and to the matter under consideration; the Mayor may modify times, as deemed necessary; avoid repeating remarks or points of view made by previous speakers. The use of signs, clapping, cheering or booing or any other form of verbal or nonverbal communication is not allowed.

8.1. Conditional Use Permit with Variances: 4201 W. 50th St.

- A. Resolution 2026-05: Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Operate a Religious Institution and School with Variances for Parking and Lot Size for Mis Amigos Spanish Immersion Preschool at 4201 W. 50th St.

## **9. Reports/Recommendations**

9.1. Resolution 2026-06: Accepting Donations

9.2. Sketch Plan Review: 4200 76<sup>th</sup> Street West (Retail Store, Warehouse & Dropoff for Salvation

Army)

9.3. Citywide Speed Limit Reduction Evaluation

9.4. Ordinance 2025-17: Amending Chapter 22 – Miscellaneous Offenses to add Article XI. – Firearms

9.5. Ordinance 2026-02: Amending Section 4-9-9; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 6 Article III Lawful Gambling of the Edina City Code

9.6. 2026 Legislative Platforms

## **10. Manager's Comments**

## **11. Mayor and Council Comments**

11.1. Mayor Hovland to provide update on City Manager Neal's performance review

## **12. Adjournment**



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**Item Number:** 5.1

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Information

**Prepared By:** Kari Sinning, Deputy City Clerk

**Item Title:** City Manager's Response to Community Comments

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**Action Requested:**

None, information only.

**Information/Background:**

[Responses to questions posed during Community Comment at the last meeting were posted on the City's website \(URL\).](#) City Manager Neal will provide summaries of those responses during the meeting.

**Supporting Documentation:**

None



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**Item Number:** 6.1

**Department:**

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Sharon Allison, City Clerk

**Item Title:** Minutes: Work Session and Regular for Jan. 20 & 26, 2026

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**Action Requested:**

Approve minutes as presented.

**Information/Background:**

**Supporting Documentation:**

1. Minutes: Work Session, Jan. 20, 2026
2. Minutes: Regular, Jan. 20, 2026
3. Minutes: Work Session, Jan. 26, 2026

**MINUTES  
OF THE EDINA CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION  
COMMUNITY ROOM, CITY HALL  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2026  
5:30 P.M.**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hovland called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

**2.0 ROLL CALL**

Answering rollcall were Members Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, and Mayor Hovland.

Staff in attendance: Scott Neal, City Manager; Ari Lenz, Assistant City Manager; Zoe Johnson, City Management Fellow; Chad Millner, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Perry Vetter, Parks & Recreation Director; Chief of Police Todd Milburn; Ryan Browning, I.T. Director; Steve Peckham, Project Communications Coordinator; and Sharon Allison, City Clerk.

Delegation in attendance: Senator Alice Mann (remote); Katy Sen, Messerli-Kramer; Patricia Nauman, Metro Cities; Senator Ron Latz; Tony Albright, Metro League of Cities; Pierre Willette, League of Minnesota Cities; Ann Finn, League of Minnesota Cities; Representative Julie Greene; Representative Cheryl Youakim.

**3.1 2026 LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION MEETING**

Manager Neal shared the City's draft 2026 Legislative Platforms were shared with the legislative delegation in advance, with formal Council approval expected later this evening. Neal outlined the platforms including continued pursuit of the local option sales tax authority, flexibility to use remaining authorized proceeds for additional projects, coordination with MnDOT on acquiring undeveloped land in front of City Hall for Fire Station #3 and potential credit for the City's bridge investment, authorization for a Social District, and exploring the feasibility of lifting state firearm preemption. Neal asked the delegation to provide feedback on the feasibility of these priorities and strategies for moving them forward.

The legislative delegation asked clarifying questions about the origin of the \$71 million sales tax amount. Delegation members noted similar requests from peer cities, acknowledged challenges in passing tax bills, and suggested a potential compromise approach focused on duration or scope. On Fire Station #3, delegation members were hopeful legislation may not be required and cited similar past situations, while staff noted MnDOT has indicated Edina would have first right at market value after its project package is complete. Regarding firearm preemption, delegation members described significant political and legal hurdles, emphasized concerns about a patchwork of local regulations, and recognized the symbolic value of local advocacy even if immediate change is unlikely. On housing and zoning, delegation members discussed a performance-based approach and a menu of options that preserve local control, including ADUs, condo law updates, financing tools, land trusts, building code considerations, and the practical challenges of building in commercial areas, while acknowledging fatigue around the issue and the difficulty of advancing major reforms in a closely divided Legislature. Additional discussion touched on Social District authorization as broadly supported across political perspectives, though not guaranteed.

Delegation members advised that the upcoming session will be short and crowded with competing priorities and encouraged patience.

#### **4.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Hovland adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sharon Allison, City Clerk

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James B. Hovland, Mayor

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, February 4, 2026. Audio copy of the work session available.

**MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
EDINA CITY COUNCIL  
HELD AT CITY HALL  
JANUARY 20, 2026  
7:00 P.M.**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hovland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2.0 ROLL CALL**

Answering roll call were Members Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, and Hovland.

**3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**4.0 MEETING AGENDA – APPROVED**

The Council moved Special Recognitions and Presentations ahead of Community Comment because public comment was expected to be longer than usual.

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, approving the meeting agenda as amended.** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

**5.0 COMMUNITY COMMENT**

The Council decided that they would like to suspend the typical rule regarding no community comment on matters that are on the meeting agenda for today's meeting.

**Member Pierce made a motion, seconded by Member Risser, suspending the rules that community comment cannot be made regarding matters on the meeting agenda, to hear input on immigration enforcement issues.** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

Jessi Kingston stated that people in the community are hurting and afraid, and that residents need their leaders to stand beside them rather than watch from a distance. Mrs. Kingston asked that the City act on these matters now.

Mayor Hovland noted that he met with 8 Minnesota mayors to discuss this matter last week and met again with various City Managers and Police Chiefs a few days later. Mayor Hovland noted that he has sent two letters to the New York Times editorial board so that people can understand what has been going on here in Minnesota.

Police Chief Milburn stated that they worked in the Police Department to put together a policy to clear up roles for officers when interacting with ICE Officers. Mr. Milburn noted that their main focus is to protect people and property, and they do not interfere or work alongside ICE officers. Mr. Milburn noted that they will always be responsive to 911 calls.

Mr. Milburn stated that local law enforcement has been stretched thin. Mr. Milburn discussed some incidents regarding what law enforcement has been dealing with and the reason why the press conference was held.

City Manager Neal stated that Mrs. Kingston sent the City a nice framework, and they are in the process of putting together an internal staff task force to look at all of these suggestions.

Mr. Neal noted that it is time to put together a more unified, suburban approach to push back on the unconstitutional actions being done towards residents.

The Council stated that Edina is a Human Rights City and noted that if anyone sees anything unsafe happening, call 911. The Council noted that all businesses should have a plan, write it out, and have a point person to administer the plan.

The Council highlighted specific parts of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Sandy Carlson urged the City Council for more transparency and broader community input on the proposed France Avenue tunnel project. Mrs. Carlson asked the Council to hold a formal public hearing open to all Edina residents before any further funds are allocated.

Helen Ferraro stated that the ICE raids that have been going on have caused her to be terrified to leave her house, and asked what residents are supposed to do if ICE agents are acting unconstitutionally.

Janey Westin noted that this is a serious matter and is so terrifying for so many people. Mrs. Westin stated that she would like the City to come out with a statement regarding where they stand on this matter. Mrs. Westin asked if Edina could do anything to help people who are released by ICE to help them stay warm/get home safely.

Michael Waring stated that it is important for the City to have a means of communicating clearly to the boards of these associations about the importance of becoming knowledgeable on this matter.

Chelsey Dively stated that it appears that ICE has access to the flock cameras, and it is putting people at risk. Mrs. Dively asked if they could temporarily halt those from being used or make them more secure.

Mr. Milburn noted that they have been in contact with flock cameras for over a year, and they are very confident that they are not being shared with any ICE agents.

Art Boylan noted that there are serious issues in the City and appreciates the work all of the City staff does. Mr. Boylan noted that there is a 3-premises limit in the current ordinance and hopes that it can be expanded to 6.

Harry McLenighan recommended that the Council should remind residents that they promise to support justice for all at every meeting and noted that they should pay special attention to their language choices to avoid mistrust and promote civility.

Mattias Oddsson thanked the Council for allowing residents to speak their minds on the ICE enforcement issues. Mr. Oddsson noted that the unlawful acts that have occurred warrant a response from community leaders and elected officials, and noted that it has also shown great acts of courage from community members. Mr. Oddsson asked that they consider an eviction moratorium or emergency rental assistance since many businesses are closed or operating under limited hours.

Joanne Alkire noted that there is an incredible effort going on in the City, and the City staff is not a part of it. Mrs. Alkire noted that they are afraid that they will be targeted for doing legal activity to support the community. Mrs. Alkire discussed incidents that she has heard about in her Signal chats.

## **5.1. CITY MANAGER'S RESPONSE TO COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

City Manager Neal responded to Community Comments from current and past meetings.

## **6.0 CONSENT AGENDA – ADOPTED**

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, approving the consent agenda as follows:**

- 6.1. Approve regular and work session meeting minutes of December 8 and 16, 2025, and January 6, 2026**
- 6.2. Approve Claims for Payment for Check Register Pre-List Dated December 12, 2025, totaling \$4,039,491.36, Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated December 19, 2025, totaling \$4,029,962.31, Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated December 24, 2025, totaling \$1,401,395.33, Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated January 2, 2026, totaling \$1,288,036.98, and Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated January 9, 2026, totaling \$1,489,306.77.**
- 6.3. Request for Purchase, Annual LOGIS Services, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, LOGIS, at \$537,655**
- 6.4. Request for Purchase, 2026 Computer Replacements, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, HP, at \$82,450.80**
- 6.5. Request for Purchase, Annual Card Access and Security Camera Agreements, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Pro-Tec Design, at \$99,957.70**
- 6.6. Grant First Reading approving Ordinance 2026-01, Setting Morningside Water Rates**
- 6.7. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-01, amending the Budget for the City of Edina for Year 2026**
- 6.8. Request for Purchase, Change Order #1: Home Energy Squad Contract, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Center for Energy and Environment at \$15,000**
- 6.9. Request for Purchase, Ariel Lift, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Forklifts of Minnesota, at \$60,217.50**
- 6.10. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-03, supporting the Dissolution of the U.S. Highway 169 Corridor Coalition**
- 6.11. Request for Purchase, Rave Contract Funds, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Rave Mobile Safety, at \$57,222.00**
- 6.12. CHS-I Shared/Hosted Phone Contract Amendments**
- 6.13. Request for Purchase, Ford Explorer Police Interceptor, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Tenvoorde Ford, at \$47,036.77**
- 6.14. Amendment to Foundational Public Health Responsibilities Services Agreement with City of Bloomington**
- 6.15. Request for Purchase, Project DOX Software Subscription, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Avolve Software Corp, at \$35,352.00**
- 6.16. Request for Purchase, Blue Peak Consulting Mental Health Provider Renewal, awarding the bid to the recommended low bidder, Blue Peak Consulting at \$26,250.00**
- 6.17. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-04, authorizing the Approval of the 2026-2028 Residential Waste Reduction and Recycling Grant Agreement with Hennepin County.**
- 6.18. 2026-2027 City and Local 49ers Union Contract**
- 6.19. 2027-2027 City and Local 292 Electricians Union Contract**
- 6.20. Summary Publication for Ordinances 2025-16, 2025-18, and 2025-19**

**Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.**

## **7.0 SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **7.1. EDINA FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RECOGNITION**

The item was addressed before item 5, Community Comment. The Council expressed its congratulations to the Edina Football team for their State Championship. Jason Potts, Head Football Coach, stated that they are very appreciative of the support and recognition from Edina.

### **7.2. WINTER SALT WEEK JANUARY 26-30, 2026 – PROCLAIMED**

This item was addressed before item 5, Community Comment. Mayor Hovland read the proclamation in full, declaring January 26-30, 2026, as Winter Salt Week in Edina. Water Resource Coordinator Vanderwerff Wilson discussed the proclamation. The proclamation was presented to Edina resident Sue Nissen.

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, approving a proclamation declaring January 26-30, 2026, as Winter Salt Week in the City of Edina.**

Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

**8.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD** – Affidavits of Notice presented and ordered placed on file.

### **8.1. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT WITH VARIANCES: 4201 W. 50TH STREET - TABLED**

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, tabling the Conditional Use Permit with Variances: 4201 W. 50th Street to the February 3, 2026, City Council meeting.** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

## **9.0 REPORTS / RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **9.1. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02 ACCEPTING DONATIONS – ADOPTED**

**Member Jackson introduced and moved adoption of Resolution No. 2026-02 accepting various grants and donations.** Member Pierce seconded the motion. Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

### **9.2. PRESENTATION ON BRAEMAR ICE ARENA CONCEPT PLAN – PRESENTED**

Parks and Recreation Director Vetter presented the upgrades and expansion of the Braemar Ice Arena including a project recap, stakeholder input, project priorities, core project principles, the mission, 3D site view of proposed core concept, existing space remodels, view of lobby expansion, view of new fourth indoor rink, budget summary, potential additional improvements, sustainable building policy, next steps, Braemar Arena stakeholder feedback, and the Edina Parks and Recreation Commission feedback.

The Council thanked Vetter for his presentation and the work that has been doing.

### **9.3. ORDINANCE 2025-17, AMENDING CHAPTER 22 - MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES TO ADD ARTICLE XL- FIREARMS – FIRST READING GRANTED**

City Manager Neal noted that this item pertains to a proposed Firearm Safety and Safe Storage Ordinance that would amend Chapter 22 of the City Code to create a new article regulating certain firearms and firearm components within the City. Mr. Neal noted that the City Council held a special town hall meeting on January 6, 2026, to get feedback on the proposed ordinance.

City Attorney Kendall stated that the ordinance is like the ordinance passed by the city of St. Paul, with the key differences being the effective date and there being no prohibition on the possession of a firearm in places owned by the City, designed to help the Edina ordinance to survive litigation.

The Council asked questions regarding the validity of the ordinance with the State preemption, actual legality, and how this could be used if passed. Mr. Kendall stated that, in his opinion, the ordinance is not automatically void; it is possible for an ordinance to have a contingent effective date. Mr. Kendall discussed the differences between conflict and field preemption and noted that there is an argument that this is conflict preemption, meaning it is possible to pass an ordinance that has a contingent effective date. Mr. Kendall stated that if this ordinance were effective now, it would be preempted by State law, which is addressed by saying it is not effective now.

The Council gave feedback on why now is the time for laws like this to be put into action and expressed full support for this ordinance; read comments from Senator Ron Latz regarding this matter; on there being a place for preemption here to have consistency across the State; and historical catalysts for changing societal views and the importance of making a legal statement.

**Member Agnew made a motion to grant First Reading to Ordinance No. 2025-17, amending Chapter 22 - Miscellaneous Offenses to add Article XI. - Firearms.** Member Jackson seconded the motion. Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Hovland. Abstain: Risser. Motion carried.

#### **9.4. ORDINANCE 2026-02, AMENDING SECTION 4-9-9; REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 6 ARTICLE III LAWFUL GAMBLING OF THE EDINA CITY CODE – CONTINUED TO FEBRUARY 3, 2026**

City Clerk Allison gave a presentation on the lawful gambling ordinance, including information regarding its background and need for change, what is being proposed, the premises permit framework, financial and regulatory requirements, proposed changes to the exempt gambling permits, and staff recommendation. Mr. Neal stated the goal is to create an opening for this kind of activity to occur without putting the City in the position of deciding who gets a permit.

The Council asked questions regarding the process for adding more premises in the future. Allison stated Council could approve more immediately or amend the ordinance anytime in the future. Council asked if the income the City will get will be on par with the cost that it will take to administer gambling and Allison noted that she believe it will be on par but is not certain because this is new.

The Council expressed concerns regarding not being able to support the ordinance, because it introduces another form of gambling and places the burden on a narrower, more vulnerable group and that this is part of an overall system that preys on addiction and takes money from people who may not have money to give.

The Council requested hearing more about the need for this type of gambling in Edina and directed staff to come back with the ordinance under first reading and to get feedback from the community on its engagement platform, Better Together.

**Member Pierce made a motion, seconded by Member Jackson, to bring back Ordinance 2026-02 for first reading on February 3, 2026, and post the ordinance on BTE for community feedback.** Ayes: Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Nay: Agnew. Motion carried.

#### **9.5. SKETCH PLAN REVIEW: 6016 VERNON AVENUE (EV CHARGING STATION) – PRESENTED**

Community Development Director Teague stated that this item pertains to 6016 Vernon Avenue and the proposal for a use that is allowed under their current zoning ordinance of PCD-4.

Declan Wilkerson, iONNA Deployment Design Specialist, presented who iONNA is, their mission, the spread of the company so far, experience in Edina, vision aligning with Edina, rechargery, concept sketches for the interior and exterior, and exterior elevation.

The Council asked questions regarding lighting, convenience store accessibility, higher-end vending ideas, and the process for lounge use. Andres Villacres, iONNA Site Development, stated that they are proposing auto-dimming motion sensors and shielded LED lights pointed down. He noted that they are flexible and want to be a good community partner. Mr. Villacres noted that they will take the idea of higher-end vending options back and explore what they are able to do. Mr. Wilkerson noted that this site would work well for coworking, being near a residential area.

The Council gave feedback regarding the surrounding zoning to this site, increasing community draw, and potentially adding bike racks, asked questions regarding cleaning services, parking for gas vehicles, and entrances to the site. The Council expressed concerns regarding having 24/7 charging, lighting in a neighborhood at all hours of the night, and this site being used by the community.

#### **9.6. ADOPT 2026 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORMS – APPROVED**

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Risser, tabling the adoption of 2026 Legislative Platforms to the February 3, 2026, City Council meeting.** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

#### **9.7. RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05, APPROVING THE PROPOSED LOCAL SALES TAX QUESTION AND AUTHORIZING AN ELECTION THEREON DURING THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION – ADOPTED**

City Manager Neal stated that this item pertains to a discussion on expanding the applicability of their local sales tax.

**Member Jackson introduced and moved adoption of Resolution No. 2026-05, Approving the Proposed Local Sales Tax Question and Authorizing an Election thereon during the 2026 General Election.** Member Pierce seconded the motion. Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

#### **10.0 MANAGER'S COMMENTS – Received**

#### **11.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS – Received**

#### **11.1 DISCUSS CITY RESPONSE TO CURRENT FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, reaffirming the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

#### **12.0 ADJOURNMENT**

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 p.m.** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sharon Allison, City Clerk

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James B. Hovland, Mayor

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, February 4, 2026. Video Copy of January 20, 2026, meeting available.

**MINUTES  
OF THE EDINA CITY COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION  
CLOSED MEETING  
COMMUNITY ROOM, CITY HALL  
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026  
7:00 P.M.**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hovland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2.0 ROLL CALL**

Answering roll call were Members Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, and Mayor Hovland.

Others in attendance: Consultant Charles “Chad” Weinstein, Ethical Leaders in Action; Jennifer Garske, Executive Assistant (left after roll call); Scott Neal, City Manager

**3.1 MOTION TO CLOSE SESSION *as permitted by MS 13D.05, Subd. 3 to conduct the City Manager Performance Review.***

**Member Jackson made a motion, seconded by Member Pierce, to close the meeting as permitted by MS 13D.05, Subd. 3 to conduct the City Manager Performance Review. Ayes:** Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

**3.2 CITY MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

The City Council conducted City Manager Neal’s annual performance review.

**3.3 MOTION TO MOVE BACK INTO OPEN SESSION**

***Member Pierce made a motion, seconded by Member Jackson to move back into open session.*** Ayes: Agnew, Jackson, Pierce, Risser, Hovland. Motion carried.

**4.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Hovland adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sharon Allison, City Clerk

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James B. Hovland, Mayor

Minutes approved by Edina City Council, February 4, 2026.



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**Item Number:** 6.2

**Department:** Finance

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Pa Thao, Finance Director

**Item Title:** Payment of Claims

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**Action Requested:**

Approve claims for payment

**Information/Background:**

For security purposes and to meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#), the detailed claims reports are not included in the public packet but they are available to City Council through a secure Board Portal. To request the claims reports, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

**List of Payment Claims:**

1. Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated 12.12.2025 Total \$1,259.61 (1011)
2. Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated 01.16.2026 Total \$1,316,348.21
3. Check Register Claims Pre-List Dated 01.23.2026 Total \$1,283,507.69



**Item Number:** 6.3

**Department:** Public Works

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Chad Millner, Director of Public Works and City Engineer

**Item Title:** Purchase Request: Bulk Road Salt

**Action Requested:**

Approve Purchase Request for Bulk Road Salt from the State Contract with Compass Minerals America, Inc. for up to \$220,000.

**Requisition Number:** 12500297

**Vendor:** Compass Minerals America, Inc.

**Equipment Status:** NA

**Funding Source:** Public Works Operating Budget

**Cost:** \$220,000

**Information/Background:**

Bulk road salt is part of our winter maintenance program to maintain safe and accessible roadways. All operators are trained on proper salting techniques to reduce harm to infrastructure and water sources. The city is committed to promoting sustainable winter maintenance operations.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

This purchase is funded from the Public Works Operating Budget and is part of a state contract.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

This purchase aligns with the Comprehensive Plan, Water Resources Management Plan and the Climate Action Plan.



Strong Foundation



Livable City

**Values Impact:**



Stewardship

Proper salting techniques reduces harm to infrastructure and water sources.



Sustainability

The City is committed to promoting a sustainable approach to winter maintenance for the benefit of present and future generations.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

None



**Item Number:** 6.4

**Department:** Public Works

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Nathan Kaderlik, Assistant Director-Utilities

**Item Title:** Purchase Request: Watermain Pipe Corrosion Control Study

**Action Requested:**

Approve Purchase Request for a Watermain Pipe Corrosion Control Study with AE2S for \$69,300.

**Requisition Number:** 12600026

**Vendor:** Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services

**Equipment Status:** N/A

**Funding Source:** Water Utility Fund

**Cost:** \$69,300.00

**Information/Background:**

This project consists of the analysis of the City's existing watermain pipe corrosion control treatment systems. This study will develop a plan to optimize chemical feeds to optimize the long-term health of watermain pipe while ensuring alignment with MN Department of Health regulatory requirements.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

This purchase is funded by the water utility fund. There will be minimal impact on staff capacity, operations, or service levels related to implementing or managing this purchase, including whether there are ongoing costs.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

This project aligns with the Comprehensive Plan to provide safe and reliable drinking water.



Reliable Service

**Values Impact:**



Health

We will be optimizing our corrosion control treatment to minimize the lead and copper concentrations at users' taps.



Stewardship

The study will analyze our current system, recommend improvements where needed to support a safe and reliable drinking water system that meet regulatory requirements.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Scope of Work and Service Contract: Corrosion Control Study (Board Portal)



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**Item Number:** 6.5

**Department:** Public Works

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Andrew Reinisch, Engineering Technician

**Item Title:** License Supplement for Verizon Small Cell Infrastructure

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**Action Requested:**

Approve License Supplement for Verizon Small Cell Infrastructure.

**Information/Background:**

This is an update to an existing license agreement for Verizon small cell equipment. This agreement has been reviewed by the City Attorney and the terms align with previous agreements.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

No financial impacts. Verizon will pay the City \$1,500 per year for use of the light pole.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

Replacing aging infrastructure at the appropriate time is sound asset management practice.



Strong Foundation

**Values Impact:**

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. License Supplement (Board Portal)



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**Item Number:** 6.6

**Department:** Fire

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Nepa Bryant, Administrative Assistant

**Item Title:** Purchase Request: First Due Software Subscription Renewal

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**Action Requested:**

Approve payment for the renewal of the First Due Software Annual subscription for \$32,346.05.

**Requisition Number:** 12600028

**Vendor:** Locality Media LLC

**Equipment Status:** Subscription Renewal

**Funding Source:** Fire department Budget

**Cost:** \$32,346.05

**Information/Background:**

The First Due Software is web-based and used by the Fire Department for incident reporting, scheduling, personnel management, assets and inventory tracking, CAD integration, and basic training.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

No additional Fiscal Impact.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

Within the software, multiple units can review and collaborate efficiently with data generated from reports, making it faster and easier to respond to the community and other City staff.

**Values Impact:**



Equity

First Due tracks personnel assigned to an incident call and ensures an accurate response time.



Sustainability

First Due eliminates paper submittals of incident reports reducing paper waste.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

None



**Item Number:** 6.7

**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Perry Vetter, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Title:** Purchase Request: Braemar Ice Arena Phase 1 – South and East Rink Improvements

**Action Requested:**

Approve Request for Purchase of Braemar Ice Arena Phase 1 Construction Improvements with All American Ice LLC for \$5,034,197.00.

**Requisition Number:** 12600027

**Vendor:** All American Ice LLC

**Equipment Status:** Replacement

**Funding Source:** LOST Capital

**Cost:** \$5,034,197.00

**Information/Background:**

This purchase is in support of the Braemar Park Master Plan and the Braemar Ice Arena renovation and expansion project. The request includes removal and full reconstruction of the South and East rink floor systems, including: removal, demolition, new concrete floor system with subfloor heating, fine grading and floor insulation. New dasher board systems for the South and East rink including: player and equipment access gates, cladding, shields and supports, player, penalty and timekeeper boxes, benches and spectator safety netting. New piping mains for the west rink and a portable chiller system are also included and will be used throughout the project. These improvements were part of the infrastructure plans as identified in the project needs summary for capital asset replacement. Approval of this request would allow work to begin after the current hockey season in April and be ready for ice making in September for the 2026/2027 hockey season.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

This project is to improve and expand Braemar Ice Arena by improving the quality of the ice, adding a fourth indoor rink and improving the user experience with a focus on being an athlete first facility. This is being funded by the Local Option Sales Tax referendums that occurred in 2022 and 2023 that provided \$45.2M for the project.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

The Braemar Park Master Plan was adopted by the Edina City Council in 2018 and amended in 2022.



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City



Better Together

## Values Impact:



Engagement

This project is one portion of the overall Braemar Park Master Plan and Braemar Ice Arena renovation and expansion project.



Equity

This project directly impacts the Edina High School, Edina Hockey Association, Braemar City of Lakes Figure Skating Club, Breakaway Academy, General Sports, Ikola Cup members and Da Beauty League feedback.



Health

The primary focus for this project is to improve and expand for all users as an athlete first facility.



Stewardship

This project replaces existing capital assets with new and more reliable infrastructure.



Sustainability

This project will provide needed upgrades to the physical capital infrastructure that will operate more efficiently, saving energy, reducing carbon use and support aspects of the Climate Action Plan.

## Supporting Documentation:

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. City of Edina and All American Ice LLC Agreement (Board Portal)



**Item Number:** 6.8

**Department:** Parks & Recreation

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Perry Vetter, Parks & Recreation Director

**Item Title:** Waive Permit Fees for Braemar Ice Arena Phase 1 – South and East Rink Improvements

**Action Requested:**

Waive Permit fees for Braemar Ice Arena Phase 1 South and East Rink Improvements in the amount of \$42,500.70

**Information/Background:**

The City has the authority to waive building fee permits for municipal building projects. By doing so, the City is able to set aside the amount that would have been spent on the fees to instead add value to the overall project, cover potential future change orders, or make the project more affordable by reducing the total project cost. The total estimated building permit fees for this portion of the project is \$42,500.70.

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Building Permit Fee | \$25,758.00 |
| Plan Review Fee     | \$16,742.70 |
| Total               | \$42,500.70 |

It is important for the City Council to determine if these project's building permit fees will be waived so that staff is able to prepare project budgets with the most accurate information available.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

Project funded by Local Option Sales Tax.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

CIP P&R 23207



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service

**Values Impact:**



Equity

Project reduces barriers for players and spectators



Health

Project support physical health and promotes safety for players and spectators.



Stewardship

Upgrades promote sustainable maintenance needs.



Sustainability

Project support sustainability and energy efficiency goals of City and State.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

None



**Item Number:** 6.9

**Department:** Finance

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Pa Thao, Finance Director

**Item Title:** Ordinance 2026-01: Setting Morningside Water Rates

**Action Requested:**

Grant second reading to adopt ordinance 2026-01: Amending Code Section 2-724 Schedule A, setting Morningside water rates for 2025 and approve summary publication.

**Information/Background:**

The City of Minneapolis provides the water used by much of the Morningside area of Edina. Edina pays Minneapolis for the water that comes into our City from Minneapolis based on a contracted rate. The contracted rate that Edina pays is proportional to the rates the Minneapolis City Council sets for their own residents. The Minneapolis rate for 2026 is \$4.13 per 100 cubic feet of water, a 32.80% increase over the 2025 rate.

The City of Edina also provides services to this area in the form of meter reading, billing, water distribution infrastructure, and other services except for water itself. To help offset the cost of these Edina-provided services, staff recommends increasing the Edina charge by 5.25% to 0.97/1,000 gallons in 2026. This rate adjustment is consistent with the rates recommended by the City's financial advisor, Ehlers & Associates, in the 2025 utility rate study.

The recommended Morningside water rate for 2026 is \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons of water. Below is the rate history and the recommended rate for 2026.

| <i>(per 1,000 gal)</i> | <b><u>2022</u></b> | <b><u>2023</u></b> | <b><u>2024</u></b> | <b><u>2025</u></b> | <b><u>2026</u></b> |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Minneapolis charge     | \$3.60             | \$3.74             | \$3.94             | \$4.16             | \$5.52             |
| Edina charge           | \$0.80             | \$0.84             | \$0.88             | \$0.93             | \$0.97             |
| Total Rate             | \$4.40             | \$4.58             | \$4.82             | \$5.09             | \$6.50             |

For areas of Edina that do not receive Minneapolis water, the 2026 adopted rates are \$2.81, \$4.27, or \$7.06 per 1,000 gallons, depending on type and quantity of usage. Another difference between Minneapolis and Edina water is Minneapolis delivers softened water, while Edina residents use home water softener systems.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

Utility Fund

## Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:

This is essential to our City policy and infrastructure.



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City

## Values Impact:



Equity

By aligning costs with actual service usage, individuals are not disadvantaged based on where they live. It creates a transparent and uniform system that treats all community members equally, regardless of municipal borders, while maintaining affordability and access to essential water services.



Stewardship

By ensuring responsible management of shared water resources and financial fairness. Including the bordering city's water rate reflects prudent use of public funds and promotes sustainability. This approach respects the long-term viability of the system while maintaining equitable service for residents who rely on cross-boundary water access.

## Supporting Documentation:

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

None



**The City of Edina Ordains:**

**Section 1.** The following described fees of Schedule A to Code Section 2-724 are amended to read as follows:

| Chapter and Section | Purpose of Fee/Charge                                                  | 2025 Fee                                          | Proposed 2026 Fee                                        |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chapter 28</b>   |                                                                        |                                                   |                                                          |
| 28-43(b)            | <i>Water Service:</i>                                                  |                                                   |                                                          |
|                     | 1. Per 1,000 gallons for areas of city, except in the Morningside area | \$4.82<br>Per 1,000 gallons —<br>Morningside area | <b>\$6.50</b><br>Per 1,000 gallons —<br>Morningside area |

**Section 2.** The effective date of Section 1 of this Ordinance shall be March 1, 2026.

First Reading: January 20, 2026

Second Reading: February 4, 2026

**Summary for Publication:**

Effective March 1, 2026, the Morningside water rate is \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons.



**Item Number:** 6.10

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Scott Neal, City Manager

**Item Title:** Purchase Request: League of Minnesota Cities Annual Membership Dues

**Action Requested:**

Approve purchase request for League of Minnesota Cities membership dues for \$38,829.00

**Requisition Number:** 12600038

**Vendor:** League of Minnesota Cities

**Equipment Status:** N/A

**Funding Source:** Operational Budget

**Cost:** \$38,829.00

**Information/Background:**

The League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) provides services to member cities including education, training, policy development, risk management, and advocacy. Members of LMC can also participate in League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) which provides the City's property, casualty, and worker's compensation insurance.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

No additional fiscal impacts.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**



Strong Foundation



Reliable Service



Livable City

**Values Impact:**



Stewardship

LMC provides education, training, and professional development to staff.



Health

LMCIT provides worker's compensation insurance.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. LMC Membership Dues Invoice (Board Portal)



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**Item Number:** 6.11

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Scott Neal, City Manager

**Item Title:** Out-of-State Travel for Mayor Hovland

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**Action Requested:**

Approve out-of-state travel for Mayor Hovland for Feb. 12-14, 2026 to attend the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Leadership Meeting in Los Angeles, California.

**Information/Background:**

Mayor Hovland requests approval from the City Council, per the City's Elected Official Out-of-State Travel Policy, to attend the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Leadership Meeting in Los Angeles, California, from Feb. 12-14. The estimated cost is \$2,000.

The City Manager has confirmed that sufficient funds for these expenses are included in the City's 2026 budget.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

None



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**Item Number:** 7.1

**Department:** Public Works

**Item Activity:** Information

**Prepared By:** Chad Millner, Director of Public Works and City Engineer

**Item Title:** Arden Park 2025 Project of the Year by the MN Association of Watersheds

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**Action Requested:**

None, information only.

**Information/Background:**

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Staff and Board would like to acknowledge the partnership that made this award possible.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

No fiscal or capacity impact.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

This project aligned with the Comprehensive Plan, Water Resources Management Plan and Climate Action Plan.

**Values Impact:**

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

None



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**Item Number:** 8.1

**Department:** Community Development

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Emily Dalrymple, Assistant City Planner

**Item Title:** Conditional Use Permit with Variances: 4201 W. 50th St.

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**Action Requested:**

Conduct an in-person public hearing and approve resolution 2026-05.

**Information/Background:**

The subject property, 4201 W. 50th Street, is approximately 1.15 acres and is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of W 50th Street and Indianola Avenue. Mis Amigos Spanish Immersion preschool is requesting a conditional use permit to continue operating the existing church property at 4201 W 50th Street as a place of worship and a licensed early childhood education center. The proposed church use has been present on the site since the church was originally developed in 1955 (date of building construction per Hennepin County). A licensed childcare center started alongside the church during the 1990s. The church closed in Winter of 2023 and there has not been a church or school in operation since. The city has no record of a conditional use permit. Due to the use stopping in 2023, a conditional use permit is required for a church and school use to continue on site. In addition to the conditional use permit, variances are required for the number of parking spaces on site and for the size lot for a church use and daycare use on site. No exterior changes are proposed with the request. The applicant will be utilizing the existing building and parking areas.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Planning Commission Staff Report
2. Staff Presentation (Includes site plan, landscape plan, site photos)
3. Applicant Submittal (Board Portal)
4. Traffic and Parking Study: Executive Summary
5. Traffic and Parking Study (Board Portal)
6. Traffic and Parking Study: Additional Information (Board Portal)
7. BTE Comment Report



**Date:** 12/10/25

**To:** PLANNING COMMISSION

**From:** Emily Dalrymple, Assistant City Planner

**Subject:** Conditional Use Permit with parking stall variances and lot size variances for Mis Amigos at 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street

Staff Recommendation: Motion to approve a conditional use permit and variance for parking and lot size for a religious institution and school at 4201 W 50<sup>th</sup> Street subject to the findings and conditions listed in the staff report.

## Information/Background:

The subject property, 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street, is approximately 1.15 acres and is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of W 50<sup>th</sup> Street and Indianola Avenue.

Mis Amigos Spanish Immersion preschool is requesting a conditional use permit to continue operating the existing church property at 4201 W 50<sup>th</sup> Street as a place of worship and a licensed early childhood education center. The proposed church use has been present on the site since the church was originally developed in 1955 (date of building construction per Hennepin County). A licensed childcare center started alongside the church during the 1990s. The church closed in Winter of 2023 and there has not been a church or school in operation since. The city has no record of a conditional use permit. Due to the use stopping in 2023, a conditional use permit is required for a church and school use to continue on site.

In addition to the conditional use permit, variances are required for the number of parking spaces on site and for the size lot for a church use and daycare use on site. No exterior changes are proposed with the request. The applicant will be utilizing the existing building and parking areas.

## Surrounding Land Uses:

Northerly: Single Unit residential homes; zoned and guided low-density residential.

Easterly: Apartment building; zoned PRD-5 and guided low-density residential.

Southerly: Single Unit residential homes; zoned and guided low-density residential.

Westerly: Two Unit residential homes; zoned R-2 Double Dwelling Unit and guided low-density residential.

## Existing Site Features:



The subject property is a 49,993 square foot, 1.15-acre lot located at the southwest corner of W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street and Indianola Avenue. The property consists of an existing church building, existing play area and existing parking lot. There are no proposed exterior changes to the building or parking area.

## Planning:

Guide Plan designation: Low-Density Residential

Zoning: R-1, Single-Dwelling Unit District

## Compliance Table:

|                                              | City Standard | Proposed           |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>Parking Spaces-Church*</b>                | 83 spaces     | <b>71 spaces*</b>  |
| Parking Spaces-Daycare                       | 33 spaces     | 71 spaces          |
| <b>Lot Size-Religious Institution*</b>       | 3 acres       | <b>1.15 acres*</b> |
| <b>Lot Size-Daycare, preschool facility*</b> | 2 acres       | <b>1.15 acres*</b> |

**\*Requires a variance (existing conditions)**

## Traffic and Parking:

There is no change to the site access or circulation. The site has access off Indianola Avenue and Jay Place. Stantec conducted a traffic study for the site and proposed uses. The traffic study concludes that the trips added to the roadway system by the proposed project are expected to have minimal impact on traffic operations on the surrounding street system. No improvements are needed at the subject intersections to accommodate the proposed project.

Based on the City Code requirements 83 parking spaces are required for the church/religious institution use and 33 spaces are required for the daycare/preschool use. The site continues to have 71 parking spaces available. No additional parking spaces are proposed with the application. Based on the code requirements a parking variance of 12 parking spaces is required for the church/religious institution use. Stantec conducted a parking study for the site and proposed uses. The parking study concludes that the parking provided is adequate for the daycare/preschool use. The study found that with a maximum occupancy event of 276 people (the seating capacity of the largest assembly space), the peak parking demand is 92 spaces. The traffic study recommends that the project owner should develop a parking plan that clearly identifies options for parking demand greater than the spaces provided on-site. This could include items such as providing off-site parking locations and/or valet parking during a maximum occupancy event. This site has previously been used as a church/religious institution and no parking complaints for the site have been received.



## Conditional Use Permit Review:

A conditional use is a use allowed by the zoning ordinance, subject to conditions. Unlike permitted uses, conditional uses require review by the Planning Commission and approval from the City Council. Typically, conditional uses are those that may only be allowed under certain criteria or may have impacts that may need to be accounted for.

Per Section 36-306, the City may impose conditions and restrictions upon the establishment, location, construction, maintenance, operation or duration of the use, as deemed necessary for the protection of the public interest and adjacent properties, to ensure compliance with the requirements of this chapter (zoning) and other applicable provisions of this Code, and to ensure consistency with the Comprehensive Plan. The Council may require such evidence and guarantees as it may deem necessary to secure compliance with any conditions imposed. No use shall be established or maintained, and no building or other permit for establishing or maintaining such use shall be granted, until the applicant has met and fulfilled all conditions imposed by the council to the satisfaction of the planner.

**Section 36-305 of the Edina Zoning Ordinance states that the Council shall not grant a conditional use permit, unless it finds that the establishment, maintenance and operation of the use:**

- 1. Does not have an undue adverse impact on government facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements;**

The proposed use is a use that has been in existence since the property was developed in the 50's. The scale of the church and school uses are not changing and no exterior changes are proposed with the current application. The religious institution and daycare/preschool use will not have any noticeable impact on government facilities, utilities, services or existing or proposed improvements.

- 2. Will generate traffic within the capacity of the streets serving the property;**

A parking study was completed for the City by Stantec, and it was found that the proposed project is expected to have minimal impact on traffic operations on the surrounding street system.

- 3. Does not have an undue adverse impact on the public health, safety or welfare;**

Staff does not foresee any adverse impacts on the public health, safety or welfare resulting from the proposed use.

- 4. Will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of other property in the vicinity;**

The use should have no impact on the normal and orderly development and improvement of other property in the vicinity.

- 5. Conforms to the applicable restrictions and special conditions of the district in which it is located, as imposed by this chapter; and**

No changes are proposed to the exterior of the building or parking lot layout. The applicant is proposing additional landscaping around the existing playground area. There are variances associated with the applicant's proposal; for



parking and for lot size. With the exception of those variances, staff believes the use complies with all other aspects of the zoning ordinance.

## **6. Is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.**

The proposed application is consistent with the city's comprehensive plan.

### **Variance Review:**

#### **Are the proposed variances justified?**

**Minnesota Statutes and Section 36-98 of the Edina Zoning Ordinance require that the following conditions must be satisfied affirmatively. The proposed variance will:**

#### **1. Relieve practical difficulties that prevent a reasonable use from complying with ordinance requirements.**

Reasonable use does not mean that the applicant must show the land cannot be put to any reasonable use without the variance. Rather, the applicant must show that there are practical difficulties in complying with the code and that the proposed use is reasonable. "Practical difficulties" may include functional and aesthetic concerns.

The application allows the property owner to continue to the use of the property as it has been used since it was originally developed in the 1950's. The size of the lot, the proposed uses, and the number of parking spaces are not changing.

#### **2. Correct extraordinary circumstances applicable to this property but not applicable to other property in the vicinity or zoning district.**

The proposed application allows the use to continue on the subject property. This is not a new use and no exterior changes are proposed to the building, lot size or parking areas. This is not applicable to other property in the vicinity.

#### **3. There are circumstances that are unique to the property, not common to every similarly zoned property, and that are not self-created?**

The need for a variance is unique to the property and is not self-created by the applicant. This property and use has been in existence since it was originally developed in the 1950's.

#### **4. Will the variance alter the essential character of the neighborhood?**

No, the proposed variances would not alter the essential character of the neighborhood. The property would continue to be used as a church/religious institution and preschool/daycare as it has since it was developed in the 1950's. There is no exterior changes to the building or parking lot associated with the proposal.



## Recommended Action:

Staff recommend approval of the requested conditional use permit and associated variances. Approval is based on the following findings:

1. The proposed use meets all conditions to grant a conditional use permit.
2. The project does not have an undue adverse impact on government facilities, utilities, or services.
3. The proposed project will have minimal impact on traffic operations on the surrounding street system.
4. The project does not have an undue adverse impact on public health, safety or welfare.
5. The project will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of other property in the vicinity.
6. The project is consistent with the comprehensive plan.
7. The application meets the variance criteria for the parking variance and lot size variance.
8. The application allows the property owner to continue the use of the property as it has been used since it was originally developed in the 1950's. The size of the lot, the proposed uses, and the number of parking spaces are not changing.
9. The proposed variances will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. The property owner is required to develop a parking plan that identifies options for parking demand greater than the spaces provided on-site during a maximum occupancy event.
2. The property owner is required to submit a Travel Demand Management (TDM) plan.



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

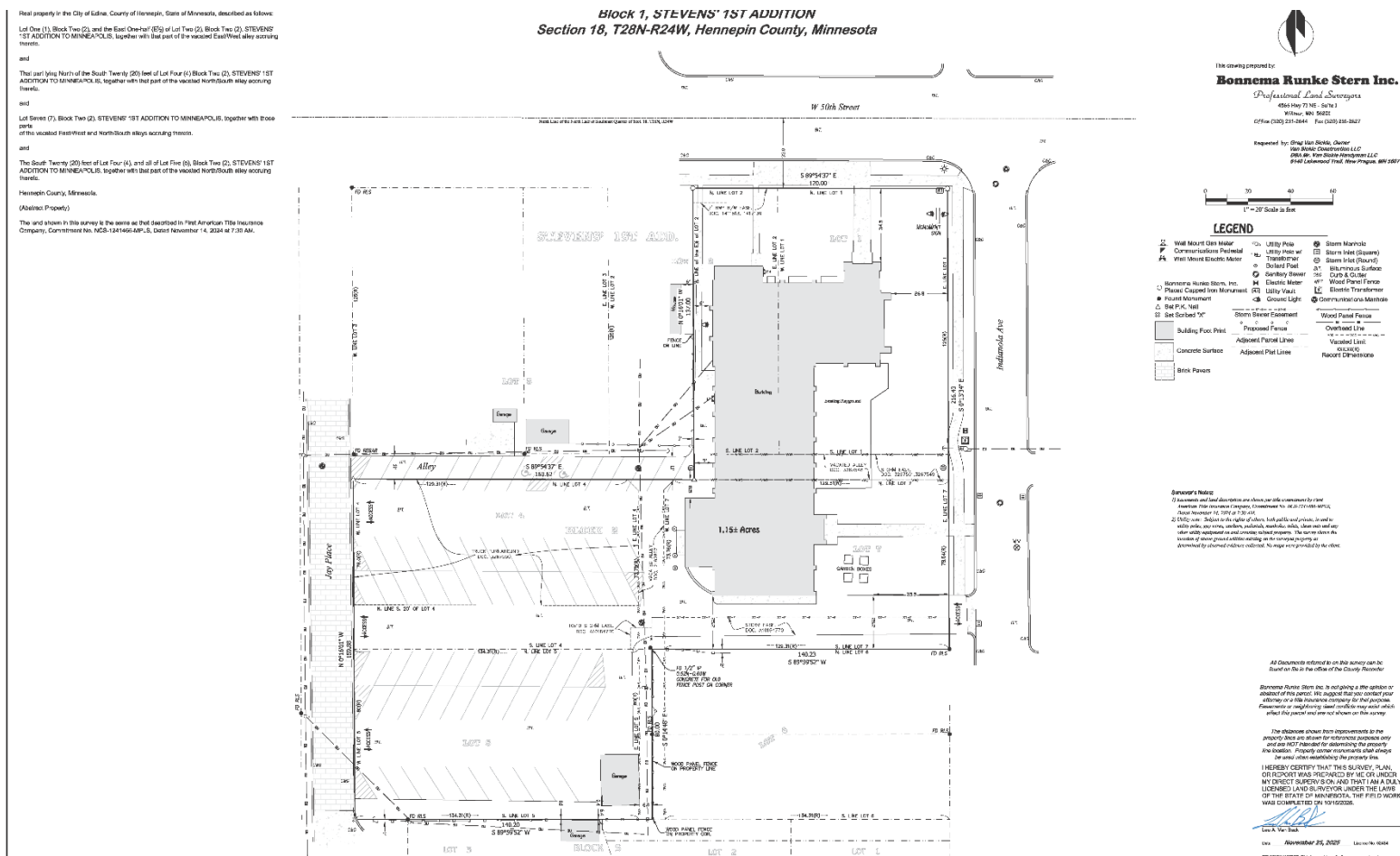
## **4201 W 50<sup>th</sup> Street West**

Conditional Use Permit with Variances

[EdinaMN.gov](http://EdinaMN.gov)

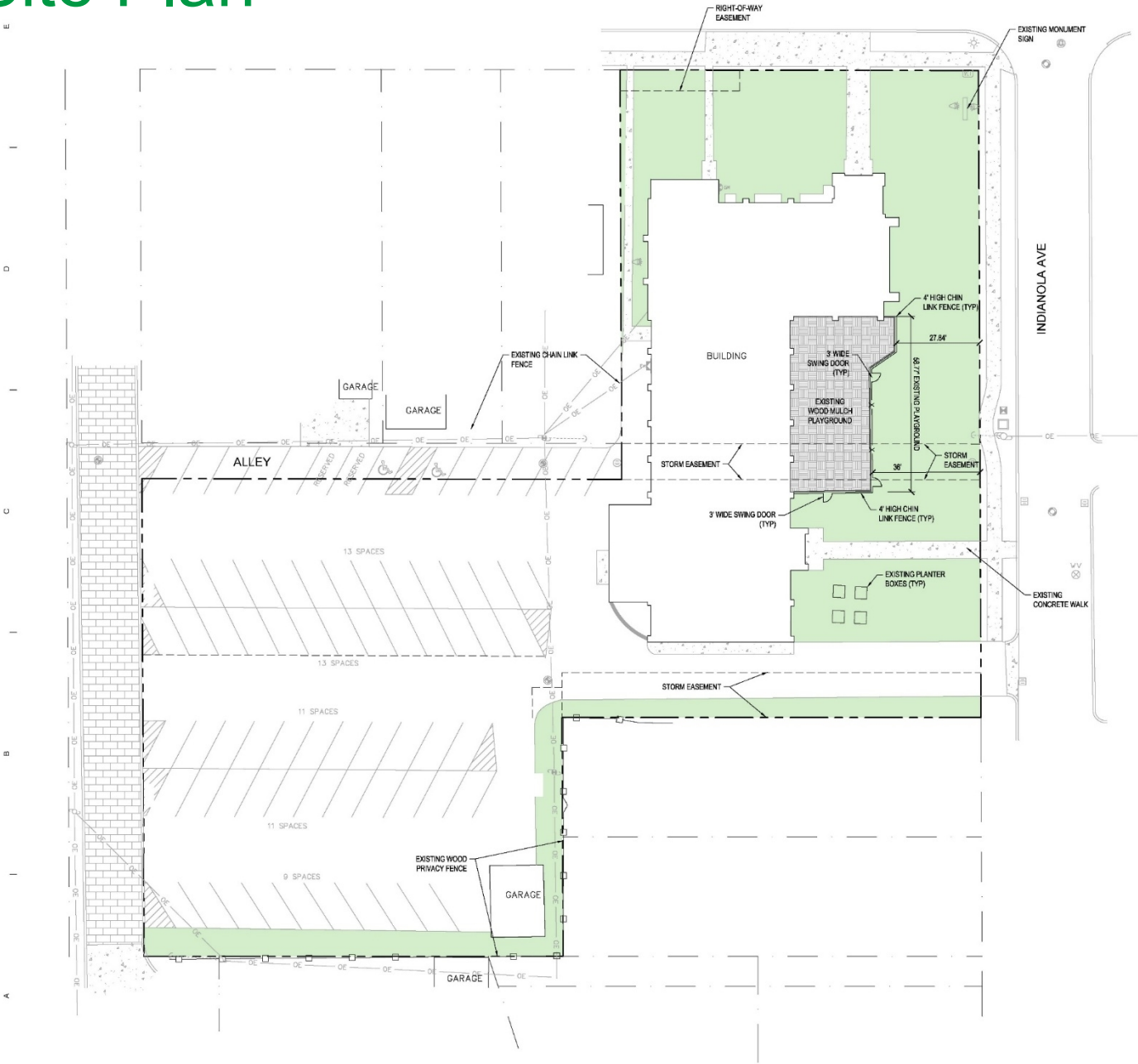


# Survey



# Site Plan

W 50TH STREET



## SITE PLAN NOTES

- BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY TAKEN FROM SURVEY PERFORMED BY BONNEMA RANKE STEIN, INC., MINNESOTA ON OCTOBER 28, 2005 EXPRESSLY FOR THIS PROJECT. ELAN DESIGN LAB CANNOT GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THIS INFORMATION. VERIFY ALL FIELD CONDITIONS AND UTILITY LOCATIONS PRIOR TO EXCAVATION/CONSTRUCTION. IF ANY DISCREPANCIES OR UNKNOWN UTILITIES ARE FOUND THAT IMPACT DESIGN OR IMPAIR CONSTRUCTION, THE ENGINEER AND OWNER SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED.
- CONTRACTOR SHALL BRING ANY CHANGED OR UNFORESEEN CONDITIONS THAT COULD RESULT IN ADDITIONAL COST TO THE ATTENTION OF THE OWNER AND ENGINEER AS SOON AS THEY ARE DISCOVERED SO THAT THEY CAN BE PROPERLY DOCUMENTED. FAILURE TO NOTIFY OR COVERING UNWITNESSED WORK SHALL RESULT IN REJECTION OF CLAIMS FOR ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.
- VERIFY ALL FIELD CONDITIONS AND UTILITY LOCATIONS PRIOR TO EXCAVATION/CONSTRUCTION. IF ANY DISCREPANCIES OR UNKNOWN UTILITIES ARE FOUND THAT IMPACT DESIGN OR IMPAIR CONSTRUCTION, THE ENGINEER AND OWNER SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED.

## LEGEND

- EXISTING WOOD MULCH AND PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
- PERVIOUS

## PROJECT SUMMARY

ZONED: R-1 SINGLE DWELLING UNIT

### AREA SUMMARY

LOT AREA 48,860 SF. (1.140 AC.)

|                        | EXISTING         | PROPOSED         |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| IMPERVIOUS             | 36,054 SF. (70%) | 36,054 SF. (70%) |
| BUILDINGS              | 9,085 SF. (18%)  | 9,085 SF. (18%)  |
| PARKING, WALK, & TRASH | 25,989 SF. (52%) | 25,989 SF. (52%) |
| PERVIOUS AREA          | 14,839 SF. (30%) | 14,839 SF. (30%) |

### PARKING SUMMARY

TOTAL PARKING 71 STALLS

2 ACCESSIBLE STALLS  
69 STANDARD STALLS

VAN SICKLE  
CONSTRUCTION  
6140 LAKEWOOD TRAIL,  
NEW PRAGUE, MN 56071  
C/O GREG SICKLE  
612-229-9618

PROJECT

MIS AMIGOS  
PLAYGROUND  
4201 50TH STREET  
EDINA, MINNESOTA

ISSUE

SITE PLAN REVIEW  
10/30/25

REVISION DATE

SITE PLAN REVIEW RESUBMITTAL 11/26/25

Elan  
DESIGN LAB  
CIVIL ENGINEERING | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
310 4TH AVE SOUTH, SUITE 1006  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415  
p 612.260.7980  
f 612.260.7990 www.elanlab.com

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this plan, specification or report was prepared by me, or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly Licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Manoel J. Wosinski DATE 10/30/25

SHEET

SITE PLAN

Page 40 of 147

PROJECT NO.



Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.



20 60  
SCALE IN FEET



# Planning Commission Recommendation

Planning Commission recommend approval of the requested conditional use permit and associated variances. Approval is based on the following findings:

- The proposed use meets all conditions to grant a conditional use permit.
- The project does not have an undue adverse impact on government facilities, utilities, or services.
- The proposed project will have minimal impact on traffic operations on the surrounding street system.
- The project does not have an undue adverse impact on public health, safety or welfare.
- The project will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of other property in the vicinity.
- The project is consistent with the comprehensive plan.
- The application meets the variance criteria for the parking variance and lot size variance.
- The application allows the property owner to continue the use of the property as it has been used since it was originally developed in the 1950's. The size of the lot, the proposed uses, and the number of parking spaces are not changing.
- The proposed variances will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

- The property owner is required to develop a parking plan that identifies options for parking demand greater than the spaces provided on-site during a maximum occupancy event.
- The property owner is required to submit a Travel Demand Management (TDM) plan.
- Request the City's Traffic Safety Committee review the potential for a crosswalk across W 50<sup>th</sup> Street at Arden Avenue.



# Daycare Drop Off/Pick Up Location



# **Traffic and Parking Study for 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street**

## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this Traffic and Parking Study is to evaluate the impacts of the proposed child daycare and church located at 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street in Edina, MN. The proposed project would be located in the existing vacant church building.

This study examined weekday a.m. and p.m. peak hour and Sunday peak hour traffic impacts of the proposed development at the following intersections:

- W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street/Halifax Avenue/Market Street
- W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street/Indianola Avenue
- W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street/Arden Avenue
- W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street/Wooddale Avenue
- W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street/parking lot access
- Indianola Avenue/parking lot access

The proposed project involves remodeling the existing building into a child daycare center and a church. The daycare center will have space for 146 children and 25 staff. The church will have space for 276 occupants. The daycare will operate Monday through Friday. The church is assumed to have one service on Sunday at 10:00 a.m.. The site plan shows 71 total parking spaces in the parking lot behind the building. As shown in the site plan, the project includes one access on W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street and one on Indianola Avenue. The project is expected to be completed in 2027.

The conclusions drawn from the information and analyses presented in this report are as follows:

- The proposed project is expected to generate 133 trips during the weekday a.m. peak hour, 143 trips during the weekday p.m. peak hour, and 845 trips daily. On Sunday, the proposed project is expected to generate 101 trips during the 9:00-10:00 a.m. hour and 101 trips during the 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. hour.
- The trips added to the roadway system by the proposed project are expected to have minimal impact on traffic operations on the surrounding street system. No improvements are needed at the subject intersections to accommodate the proposed project.
- Parking data from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) was used to determine the expected parking demand for the daycare center. Data provided in the ITE publication *Parking Generation*, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, results in a peak weekday parking demand of 37 spaces for the daycare center. The 71 total spaces provided are 34 spaces greater than the demand.
- For the church, the peak Sunday parking demand was determined assuming an average vehicle occupancy of 3.0 persons per vehicle. This vehicle occupancy was determined from industry information for church facilities from the Urban Land Institute and experiences on other church parking studies. With a maximum occupancy event of 276 persons, the peak parking demand is 92 spaces. The 71 total spaces provided are 21 spaces less than the demand.

- Edina City code requires 33 spaces for the daycare center and 83 parking stalls for the church. The 71 total spaces provided is 38 spaces greater than the City code requirement for the daycare center. The 71 total spaces provided is 12 spaces less than the City code requirement for the church.
- In order to accommodate potential excess parking demand, the project owner should develop a parking plan that clearly identifies options for parking demand greater than the spaces provided on-site. This could include items such as providing off-site parking locations and/or valet parking during a maximum occupancy event.
- Future plans for this area include a shared use path on Arden Avenue, which is part of a larger loop system envisioned for the City. The proposed project will benefit from the existing and proposed sidewalk and bicycle facilities in this area.
- Per City requirements, a Travel Demand Management (TDM) plan is required for this project. The goal of the TDM plan is to reduce vehicular trips during peak hours and carbon emissions from vehicles. TDM strategies for this site include:
  - Providing maps that show the area bus routes and schedules.
  - Providing maps of bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
  - Providing information on starting and joining commuter programs.
  - Providing bicycle parking spaces for employees and facility users.

The goal of the TDM plan is a 10 percent reduction in single occupant vehicle trips. The TDM plan strategies should be implemented at the time the project is complete and fully operational.

# Project Report

## Better Together Edina

### **4201 50th St. W., Conditional Use Permit with Variances**



## GUEST BOOK

### Public Input- 4201 50th St. W. CUP

|                    |                       |                        |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Visitors <b>25</b> | Contributors <b>5</b> | CONTRIBUTIONS <b>6</b> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 November 25<br>acj             | Aaron in White Oaks. This proposal does not address traffic and noise implications of the new uses; I am concerned about both and expect that appropriate studies will be completed and made public for comment. In addition, while "a parking stall variance and a lot are variance" are mentioned, the details and implications are not. Do these variances mean the existing number of parking spaces and lot size do not meet requirements for a church and day care? Does this mean people will be parking on the street and causing congestion in the adjacent neighborhoods?                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 02 December 25<br>Liz Olson       | Hello, this is Pat Biersdorf at 5040 Juanita Avenue in Edina, and I'm just thrilled that the church would be purposed again for a church and a preschool daycare. I think it's wonderful. We have lived at 5040 Juanita for 30 years and our driveway backs up to the church parking lot, and I'm so thrilled they would be using that facility in that building for this purpose as opposed to tearing it down and building high rises, condos, etc., which we seem to have more than enough of. So, again, I just want to voice my support that I think it's a fabulous, wonderful idea and I hope it gets approved in every way. So thank you so much. I'm just giving full support to that project. Thank you so much. (Transcribed by City Staff. Voicemail received 11/28/25 at 3:55 p.m.) |
| 03 December 25<br>Morningside guy | I support the waiver request. Churches should be free to obtain waivers for vital community services such as daycare and maintain their constitutional right to free exercise of religion. I can't imagine this will present any sort of significant traffic issue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 15 December 25<br>Liz Olson       | This is Barbara Kruse. Address is 4075 West 51st Street, Edina. I'm responding to a notice of public hearing that I received saying that the Mis Amigos has requested a permit to operate a church and license childhood early childhood education center at 4201 West 51st street. I believe that is the old Mercy Commons covenant Church property. I would like to see something of value in going into that property. It's pretty historic, beautiful church, beautiful property, and I think a school and another church would be an appropriate use for that area. Thank you. (Transcribed by City Staff. Voicemail received 12/15/25 at 1:17 p.m.)                                                                                                                                        |

## GUEST BOOK

### Public Input- 4201 50th St. W. CUP

13 January 26

Mary Jo Ekman

This is Mary Jo Ekman, 5003 Arden Avenue in Edina. My husband and I are not able to attend the 1/20/26 public hearing where the proposed new use of Mercy Commons Covenant Church will be discussed. We are therefore providing our written feedback here online. We live on the east side of Arden, two houses in from the SE corner of 50th and Arden Ave. Our driveway opens onto Jay Place. We are not in favor of the proposed use of the Mercy Commons property (4201 W. 50th St.). The main reason for our opposition is the potential additional M-F traffic congestion that the early childhood education center will cause. It is our understanding that this proposal will cause additional traffic on 50th Street, Jay Place, Indianola Avenue and surrounding areas. Before we address any specific impacts of this proposal, it is wise to recognize today's traffic flow. Traffic in this area is often very heavy, with rush hour traffic on 50th St. sometimes bumper to bumper or even stopped completely. Our driveway is located behind our home and opens onto Jay Place. With today's traffic levels, it's difficult and often dangerous for us to turn onto 50th from Jay Place. The same thing can be said for Bruce, Arden and Indianola Avenues. It is important then to address the very practical realities of what an additional ~60-80(?) cars in the morning and evening (for early education center drop off and pick up) will cause; congestion in the area, in general, will increase beyond the already heavy levels. First, 50th St. will be backed up even further, as east and westbound cars will be looking to enter and exit the education center. Indianola, Arden and Jay Place will be even harder to access as a result. Second, we anticipate having to stop and wait in our driveway before we can back out onto Jay Place, as cars will be streaming into the parking lot for pick up or completely stopped on Jay Place, waiting for an opening to turn onto 50th. This is safety concern and a real inconvenience for those homes like ours whose driveways open onto Jay Place. Third, pedestrian safety most definitely will be impacted, with more vehicle traffic and congestion in the area. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input and feedback.

19 January 26

Andrew J

My name is Andrew Johnson, 5001 Arden Ave, writing against the conditional use permit. While I don't necessarily oppose a day care operating in the church, I'm very concerned about the additional vehicular traffic on Jay Place that will inevitably come with it. The current traffic flow in and out of the church parking lot for drop-offs/pick-ups would overwhelm Jay Place, causing it to back-up and block the driveways on it. My driveway access is along Jay Place and my concern is egress and ingress to my driveway during drop-off and pick-up hours. With just one to two cars sitting at the stop sign, we would be unable to access our driveway. Anyone who lives along 50th Street in this corridor knows how long one must wait and how treacherous it is to make a turn with traffic, let alone a cross-traffic turn. Allowing the day care to operate would make this existing traffic problem even worse. We'd be open to revisiting a proposal like this in the future if the conditional use permit comes with specific actions to mitigate the traffic concerns, but until then as a neighbor and resident who will be directly impacted by this permit, I respectfully ask that this conditional use permit is denied.



**Resolution 2026-05: Approving a Conditional Use Permit  
to Operate a Religious Institution and School with  
Variances for Parking and Lot Size for Mis Amigos  
Spanish Immersion Preschool at 4201 W. 50th St.**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Edina, Minnesota, as follows:

**Section 1. BACKGROUND**

1. Mis Amigos Spanish Immersion preschool is requesting a conditional use permit to continue operating the existing church property at 4201 W 50<sup>th</sup> Street as a place of worship and a licensed early childhood education center. The proposed church use has been present on the site since the church was originally developed in 1955. The church closed in Winter of 2023 and there has not been a church or school in operation since. Due to the use stopping in 2023, a conditional use permit is required for a church and school use to continue on site.
2. The property is zoned R-1, Single-Dwelling Unit District, which lists “religious institutions” and “day care facilities, preschools and nursery schools” as conditionally permitted uses.
3. The property is address is 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street and is legally described as:

Real property in the City of Edina, County of Hennepin, State of Minnesota described as follows:  
Lot One (1), Block Two (2), and the East One-half (E1/2) of Lot Two (2), Block Two (2)  
STEVENS’ 1<sup>ST</sup> ADDITION TO MINNEAPOLIS, together with that part of the vacated East/West alley accruing thereto  
And  
That part lying North of the South Twenty (20) feet of Lot Four (4), Block Two (2), STEVENS’ FIRST ADDITION TO MINNEAPOLIS together with that part of the vacated North/South alley accruing thereto  
And  
Lot Seven (7), Block Two (2) STEVENS’ 1<sup>ST</sup> ADDITION TO MINNEAPOLIS, together with those parts of the vacated East/West and North/South alleys accruing thereto  
And  
The South Twenty (20) feet of Lot Four (4) and all of Lot Five (5), Block Two (2), STEVENS’ 1<sup>ST</sup> ADDITION TO MINNEAPOLIS, together with that part of the vacated North/South alley accruing thereto.  
Hennepin County, Minnesota
4. On November 26, 2025, Mis Amigos submitted a complete application for a conditional use permit with variances.
5. On December 10, 2025, the Planning Commission held a public hearing and considered the request and voted 8-0 to recommend approval of the conditional use permit with variances.
6. On February 4, 2026, the City Council held a public hearing and considered the requested conditional use permit.

## **Section 2. FINDINGS**

Approval of the conditional use permit and variances for parking and lot size for a religious institution and school for Mis Amigos Spanish Immersion Preschool to operate a place of worship and early childhood education center at 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street is based on the following findings:

1. The proposed use meets all conditions to grant a conditional use permit.
2. The project does not have an undue adverse impact on government facilities, utilities, or service.
3. The proposed project will have minimal impact on traffic operations on the surrounding street system.
4. The project does not have an undue adverse impact on public health, safety or welfare.
5. The project will not impede the normal and orderly development and improvement of other property in the vicinity.
6. The project is consistent with the comprehensive plan.
7. The application meets the variance criteria for the parking variance and lot size variance.
8. The application allows the property owner to continue the use of the property as it has been used since it was originally developed in the 1950's. The size of the lot, the proposed uses, and the number of parking spaces are not changing.
9. The proposed variances will not alter the essential character of the neighborhood.

## **Section 3. APPROVAL**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Edina City Council approves the conditional use permit with variances for parking and lot size for a religious institution and school for Mis Amigos Spanish immersion Preschool to operate a place of worship and early childhood education center at 4201 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street. Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. All operations of the business shall be consistent with the application materials included in the February 4, City Council packet.
2. The property owner is required to develop a parking plan that identifies options for parking demand greater than the spaces provided on-site during a maximum occupancy event.
3. The property owner is required to submit a Travel Demand Management (TDM) plan.
4. That the City's Traffic Safety Committee review the potential for a crosswalk across W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street at Arden Avenue.

Dated: February 4, 2026



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**Item Number:** 9.1

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Sharon Allison, City Clerk

**Item Title:** Resolution 2026-06: Accepting Donations

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**Action Requested:**

Approve resolution 2026-06 accepting donations.

**Information/Background:**

To comply with State Statute, all donations to the City must be accepted by resolution and approved by two-thirds majority of the Council.

**Supporting Documentation:**

None



**Whereas** Minnesota Statute 465.03 allows cities to accept grants and donations of real or personal property for the benefit of its citizens and;

**Whereas** said donations must be accepted via a resolution of the Council adopted by a two-thirds majority of its members.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the Edina City Council accepts with sincere appreciation the following listed donations on behalf of its citizens.

**Edina Art Center**

|                        |          |                              |
|------------------------|----------|------------------------------|
| Kowalskis Edina Market | \$800.00 | Edina Art Center Programming |
|------------------------|----------|------------------------------|

**Edina Parks & Recreation**

**Department**

|                                                                                     |            |                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------|
| Monument Chapter National<br>Society of the Daughters of the<br>American Revolution | \$3,200.00 | Bench at Arneson Acres |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------|

**Edina Police Department**

|                             |             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Children's Minnesota        | \$893.10    | Bike Safety Promotion |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$2,620.78  | Active K9 Expenses    |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$903.94    | Therapy K9 Expenses   |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$735.00    | Recruitment Expenses  |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$743.57    | NEO Reimbursement     |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$143.05    | Art Together          |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$146.14    | Cops on the Court     |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$235.58    | Juneteenth            |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$875.00    | Mothering Series      |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$499.93    | Safety Camp           |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$11,270.00 | Trikke                |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$3,000.00  | Open House            |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$5,499.00  | Massage Chair         |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$1,274.17  | Retired K9 Expenses   |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$2,717.03  | Circle of Discipline  |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$5,791.70  | Community Engagement  |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$959.42    | Night to Unite        |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$348.51    | Banquet Supplies      |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$494.00    | Recruitment Expenses  |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$609.20    | Retired K9 Expenses   |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$907.48    | Community Engagement  |

|                             |            |                                           |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$1,500.00 | Shop with a Cop                           |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$1,268.71 | Active K9 Expenses                        |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$2,540.00 | Circle of Discipline                      |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$701.90   | Active K9 Expenses                        |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$225.75   | Retired K9 Expenses                       |
| Edina First Responders Fund | \$592.33   | Banquet Supplies and Circle of Discipline |

Dated: February 4, 2026



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**Item Number:** 9.2

**Department:** Community Development

**Item Activity:** Discussion

**Prepared By:** Cary Teague, Community Development Director

**Item Title:** Sketch Plan Review: 4200 76<sup>th</sup> Street West (Retail Store, Warehouse & Dropoff for Salvation Army)

---

**Action Requested:**

No action requested. Provide the applicant non-binding feedback on a potential future land use application.

**Information/Background:**

The City Council is been asked to consider a sketch plan proposal to remodel and reuse the existing 28,000 square foot building at 4200 76<sup>th</sup> Street West. The proposed use is an 18,425 square foot Salvation Army retail store with a 9,434 square foot warehouse and indoor drop off. Potential requests by the applicant for a formal application could include the following options:

1. Rezoning the site from PID, Planned Industrial District to a PCD, Planned Commercial District, with a Zoning Ordinance Amendment to allow secondhand stores to exceed 2,500 square feet in size. A Comprehensive Plan Amendment from OR, Office Residential to a Mixed Use or Commercial Land Use; or
2. A Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Comprehensive Plan Amendment. The Ordinance amendment would be to allow secondhand stores as a primary use and at any size in the PID, Planned Industrial Zoning District. The Comprehensive Plan Amendment would be to allow retail sales as a primary use in the OR, Office Residential land use category.

The proposed use (A Secondhand Retail Store over 2,500 square feet in size) is not allowed in any zoning district. Retail sales as a primary use is not allowed in the PID, Planned Industrial District in which this site is located.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Planning Commission Staff Memo
2. Planning Commission Staff PowerPoint (Shows Zoning, Comp Plan, Site Plan, & Floor Plan)
3. Applicant Narrative
4. Applicant Submittal (Board Portal)
5. Applicant PowerPoint from Planning Commission (Board Portal)
6. Spot Zoning - League of Minnesota Cities





**Date:** January 14, 2026

**To:** Planning Commission

**From:** Cary Teague, Community Development Director

**Subject:** Sketch Plan Review – 4200 76<sup>th</sup> Street West (Retail Store, Warehouse & Dropoff for Salvation Army)

Staff Recommendation: No recommendation. The Planning Commission is asked to provide non-binding comments and direction on a potential future development request. The proposed use (A Secondhand Retail Store over 2,500 square feet in size) **is not allowed in any zoning district**. Retail sales as a primary use **is not allowed** in the PID, Planned Industrial District in which this site is located.

## Information/Background:

The Planning Commission has been asked to consider a sketch plan proposal to remodel and reuse the existing 28,000 square foot building at 4200 76<sup>th</sup> Street West. The proposed use is an 18,425 square foot Salvation Army retail store with a 9,434 square foot warehouse and indoor drop off. Potential requests by the applicant for a formal application include the following options:

1. Rezoning the site from PID, Planned Industrial District to a PCD, Planned Commercial District, with a Zoning Ordinance Amendment to allow secondhand stores to exceed 2,500 square feet in size. A Comprehensive Plan Amendment from OR, Office Residential to a Mixed Use or Commercial Land Use; or
2. A Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Comprehensive Plan Amendment. The Ordinance amendment would be to allow Secondhand stores as a primary use and at any size in the PID, Planned Industrial Zoning District. The Comprehensive Plan Amendment would be to allow retail sales as a primary use in the OR, Office Residential land use category.

As mentioned above, the proposed use (A Secondhand Retail Store over 2,500 square feet in size) **is not allowed in any zoning district**. Retail sales as a primary use **is not allowed** in the PID, Planned Industrial District. Areas of focus for the Planning Commission should be the following:

- **Should retail sales (secondhand stores) be allowed in the Industrial Zoning District as a primary use?**
- **Is the site appropriate for Commercial/Retail Zoning?**
- **Should the Comprehensive Plan be amended to allow retail as a primary land use in the OR, Office Residential land use category.**
- **Should the Comprehensive Plan be amended to re-guide the site for Commercial land use.**



## Issues/Considerations:

**Comprehensive Plan.** The Comprehensive Plan guides this site for OR, Office Residential land uses. Below describes the land use, development character and density:

| Categories                   | Description, Land Uses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Development Character and Guidelines                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Density and Intensity                   |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| OR<br><br>Office Residential | <p>Transitional areas along major thoroughfares or between higher intensity districts and residential districts. Many existing highway-oriented commercial areas are anticipated to transition to this more mixed-use character.</p> <p>Primary uses are offices, attached or multifamily housing. Secondary uses: Limited retail and service uses (not including "big box" retail), limited industrial (fully enclosed), institutional uses, parks and open space. Vertical mixed use should be encouraged and may be required on larger sites.</p> | <p>Upgrade existing streetscape and building appearance, improve pedestrian and transit environment.</p> <p>Encourage structured parking and open space linkages where feasible; emphasize the enhancement of the pedestrian environment.</p> | 20 – 75 residential dwelling units/acre |

Primary uses are office and attached or multifamily housing. The proposed retail space is 18,425 square feet and the warehouse and drop-off area is 9,434 square feet. Retail use would clearly be the primary use of the site and not a secondary use. An amendment to the Comprehensive plan to allow retail as a primary use would completely change the intent of this land use category in the City. To allow retail use as a primary use could reduce office and light industrial land uses over time. Staff would recommend that the City should maintain a strong balance of commercial, office and industrial land uses.

As demonstrated on the attached Land Use Map in the attached PowerPoint Presentation, this site is surrounded by Office and Residential Land Uses. To re-guide this site to a Commercial Land Use district would not be compatible with the surrounding land uses.

Staff would **not support these changes to the Comprehensive Plan.**



**Rezoning.** As demonstrated on the attached Zoning Map, this site is surrounded by properties that are zoned PID, Planning Industrial District. To re-zone this site to a Commercial zoning designation would not be compatible with the surrounding land uses and could be considered spot zoning.

Staff would **not support a rezoning of the site for commercial uses.**

**Zoning Ordinance.** Per Sec. 36-608 (47) of the Edina Zoning Ordinance “Secondhand stores, not exceeding 2,500 square feet of gross floor area, but excluding pawn shops” are a permitted use in the PCD 1-3, Planned Commercial Zoning districts. Therefore, the proposed secondhand store with 18,425 square feet of retail space and 9,434 square feet of warehouse would not be an allowable use in any zoning district in the City of Edina. Staff would support an ordinance amendment that would allow larger secondhand stores in the Commercial zoning district but not allow them in an industrial zoning district. These types of secondhand store (Goodwill or Salvation Army) function the same as any other retail use. The only difference is the addition of the customer drop-off area and warehouse.

**Compliance Table**

|                      | City Standard (PID)                                                                             | Proposed                     |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Setbacks (Structure) |                                                                                                 |                              |
| Front (76th)         | 50 feet                                                                                         | 50 feet                      |
| Side (West)          | 20 feet                                                                                         | 15 feet (existing condition) |
| Side (East)          | 20 feet                                                                                         | 20 feet                      |
| Rear                 | 20 feet                                                                                         | 95 feet                      |
| Parking Stalls       | Retail - 1/250 s.f. (74 required)<br>Warehouse – 1/2000 s.f. (5 required)<br>79 stalls required | 87 stalls existing           |
| FAR                  | 50%                                                                                             | 32%                          |
| Building Coverage    | 30%                                                                                             | 32% (existing condition)     |

**Traffic and Parking Study.** Would be required as part of any formal application. The required parking spaces for the site would be met.



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

## **Sketch Plan Review - 4200 76<sup>th</sup> Street West (Salvation Army)**

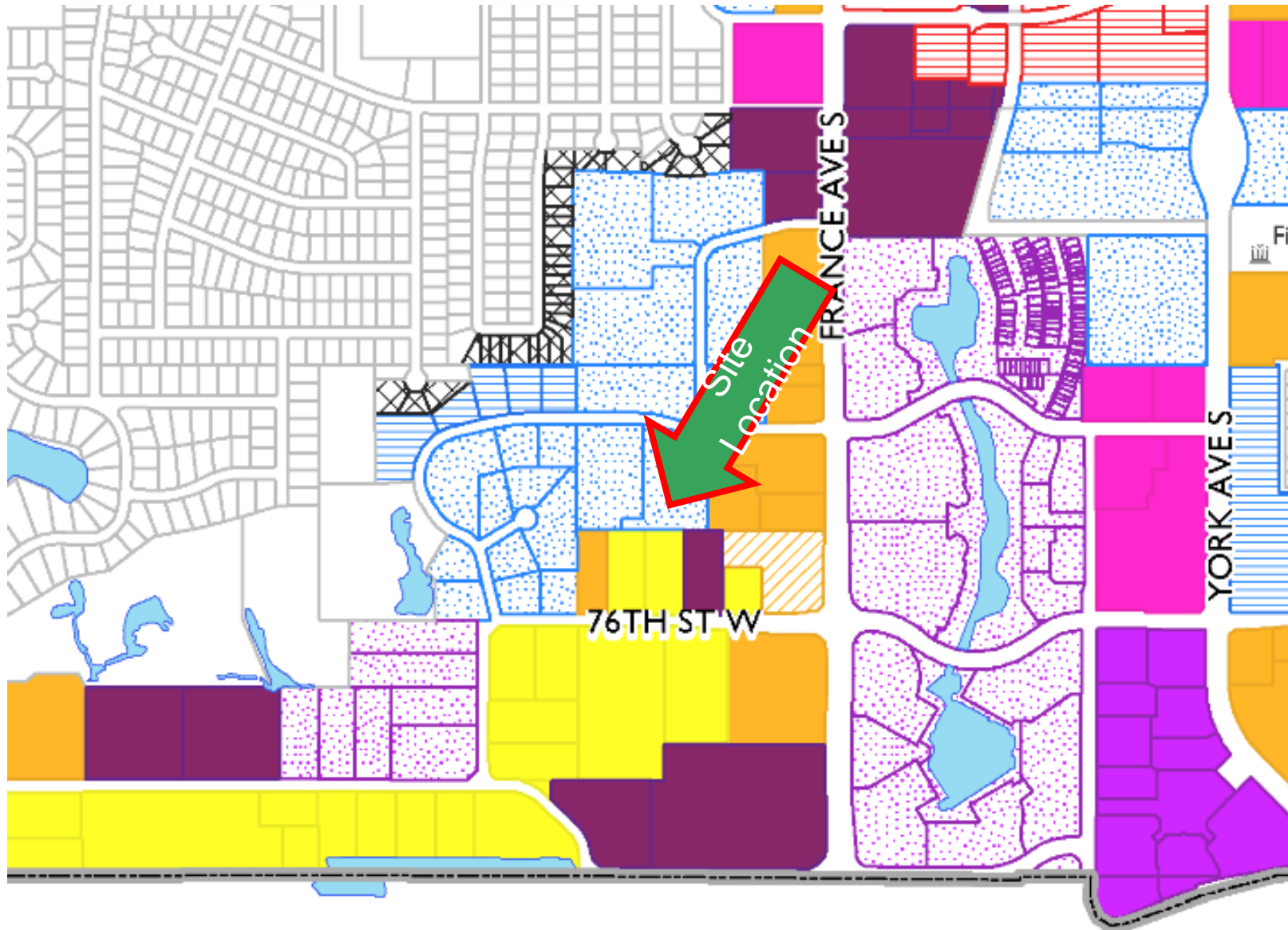
# Zoning Map & Site Location



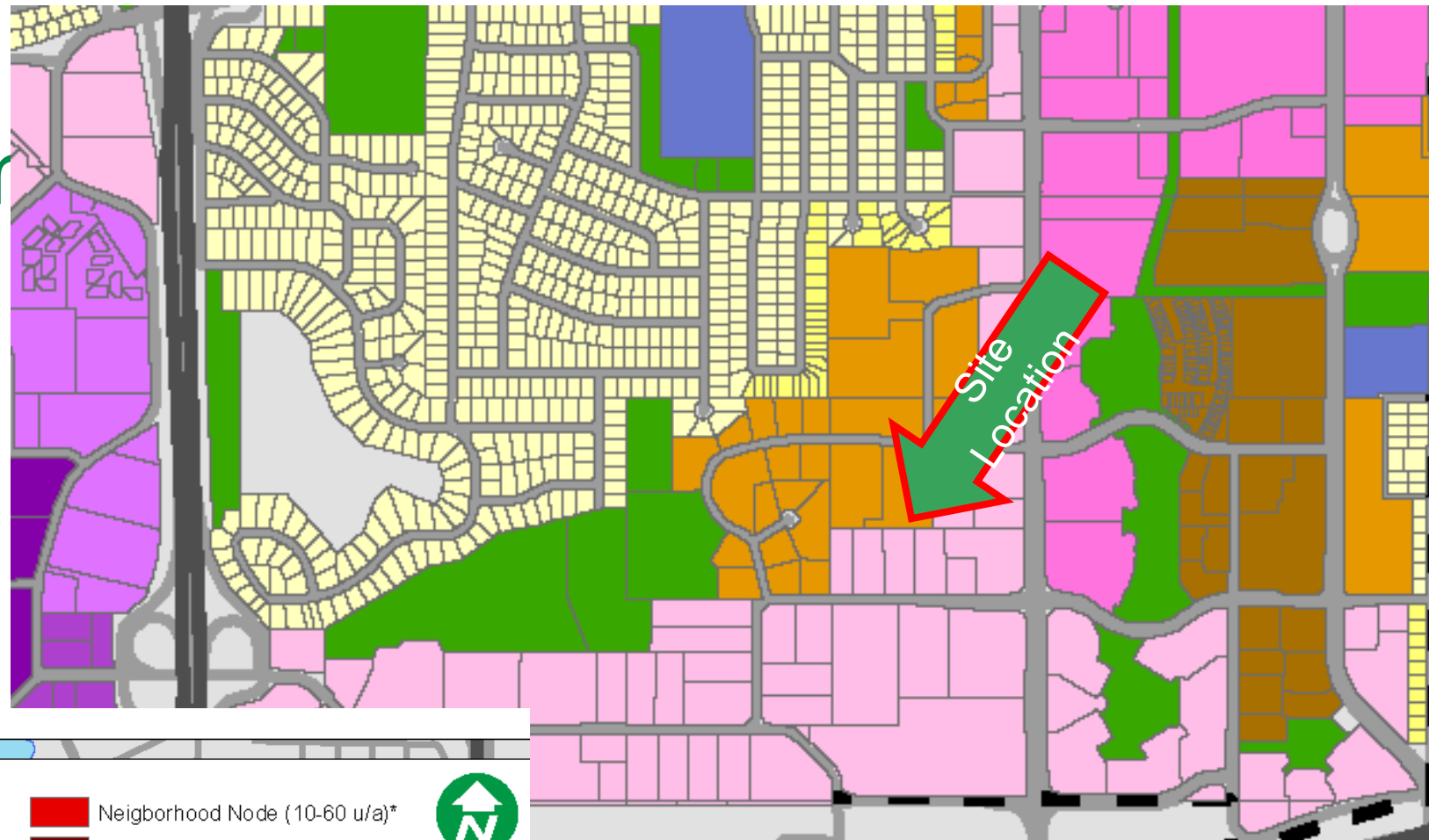
## Zoning Map

### Legend

- R-1 - Single Dwelling Unit
- R-2 - Double Dwelling Unit
- PRD-1 - Planned Residence
- PRD-2 - Planned Residence
- PRD-3 - Planned Residence
- PRD-4 - Planned Residence
- PRD-5 - Planned Residence
- PCD-1 - Planned Commercial
- PCD-2 - Planned Commercial
- PCD-3 - Planned Commercial
- PCD-4 - Planned Commercial
- POD-1 - Planned Office
- POD-2 - Planned Office
- RMD - Regional Medical
- PID - Planned Industrial
- POD - Planned Unit Development
- APD - Automotive Parking
- PSR-4 - Planned Residence
- MDD-4 - Mixed Development
- MDD-5 - Mixed Development
- MDD-6 - Mixed Development
- Lakes
- Creeks
- Edina Boundary
- Railroad
- Public Building
- Public School
- Private School



# Land Use Map & Site Location



## Legend

- |                                                     |                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Low Density Residential (1-5 u/a)                   | Neighborhood Node (10-60 u/a)*         |
| Low Density Attached Residential (4-8 u/a)          | Mixed Use Center (12-100 u/a)*         |
| Medium Density Residential (5-12 u/a)               | Community Activity Center (90-150 u/a) |
| High Density Residential (12-60 u/a)                | Industrial                             |
| Greater Southdale District Residential (50-100 u/a) | Open Space and Parks                   |
| Office Residential (20-75 u/a)                      | Public/Semi Public                     |
| Office                                              | Regional Medical (50-100 u/a)          |

0 3,600 Feet

City Limits

Source: City of Edina, Hennepin County, MetCouncil, MnDOT  
\*Density within these categories varies by subarea. See Table 3.6

# Land Use Description for Office Residential

| Categories                   | Description, Land Uses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Development Character and Guidelines                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Density and Intensity                   |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| OR<br><br>Office Residential | <p>Transitional areas along major thoroughfares or between higher intensity districts and residential districts. Many existing highway-oriented commercial areas are anticipated to transition to this more mixed-use character.</p> <p>Primary uses are offices, attached or multifamily housing. Secondary uses: Limited retail and service uses (not including "big box" retail), limited industrial (fully enclosed), institutional uses, parks and open space. Vertical mixed use should be encouraged and may be required on larger sites.</p> | <p>Upgrade existing streetscape and building appearance, improve pedestrian and transit environment.</p> <p>Encourage structured parking and open space linkages where feasible; emphasize the enhancement of the pedestrian environment.</p> | 20 – 75 residential dwelling units/acre |

# Existing Building

EXISTING PHOTO



# Proposed Site Plan



# Zoning Ordinance Compliance Table

|                      | City Standard (PID)                                                                             | Proposed                     |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Setbacks (Structure) |                                                                                                 |                              |
| Front (76th)         | 50 feet                                                                                         | 50 feet                      |
| Side (West)          | 20 feet                                                                                         | 15 feet (existing condition) |
| Side (East)          | 20 feet                                                                                         | 20 feet                      |
| Rear                 | 20 feet                                                                                         | 95 feet                      |
| Parking Stalls       | Retail - 1/250 s.f. (74 required)<br>Warehouse – 1/2000 s.f. (5 required)<br>79 stalls required | 87 stalls existing           |
| FAR                  | 50%                                                                                             | 32%                          |
| Building Coverage    | 30%                                                                                             | 32% (existing condition)     |

# Options for a Formal Application

- Rezoning, Ordinance Amendment & Comprehensive Plan Amendment. Rezoning the site from PID, Planned Industrial District to a PCD, Planned Commercial District, with a Zoning Ordinance Amendment to allow secondhand stores to exceed 2,500 square feet in size. A Comprehensive Plan Amendment from OR, Office Residential to a Mixed Use or Commercial Land Use; or
- A Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Comprehensive Plan Amendment. The Ordinance amendment would be to allow Secondhand stores as a primary use and at any size in the PID, Planned Industrial Zoning District. The Comprehensive Plan Amendment would be to allow retail sales as a primary use in the OR, Office Residential land use category.

# For Consideration by the Planning Commission

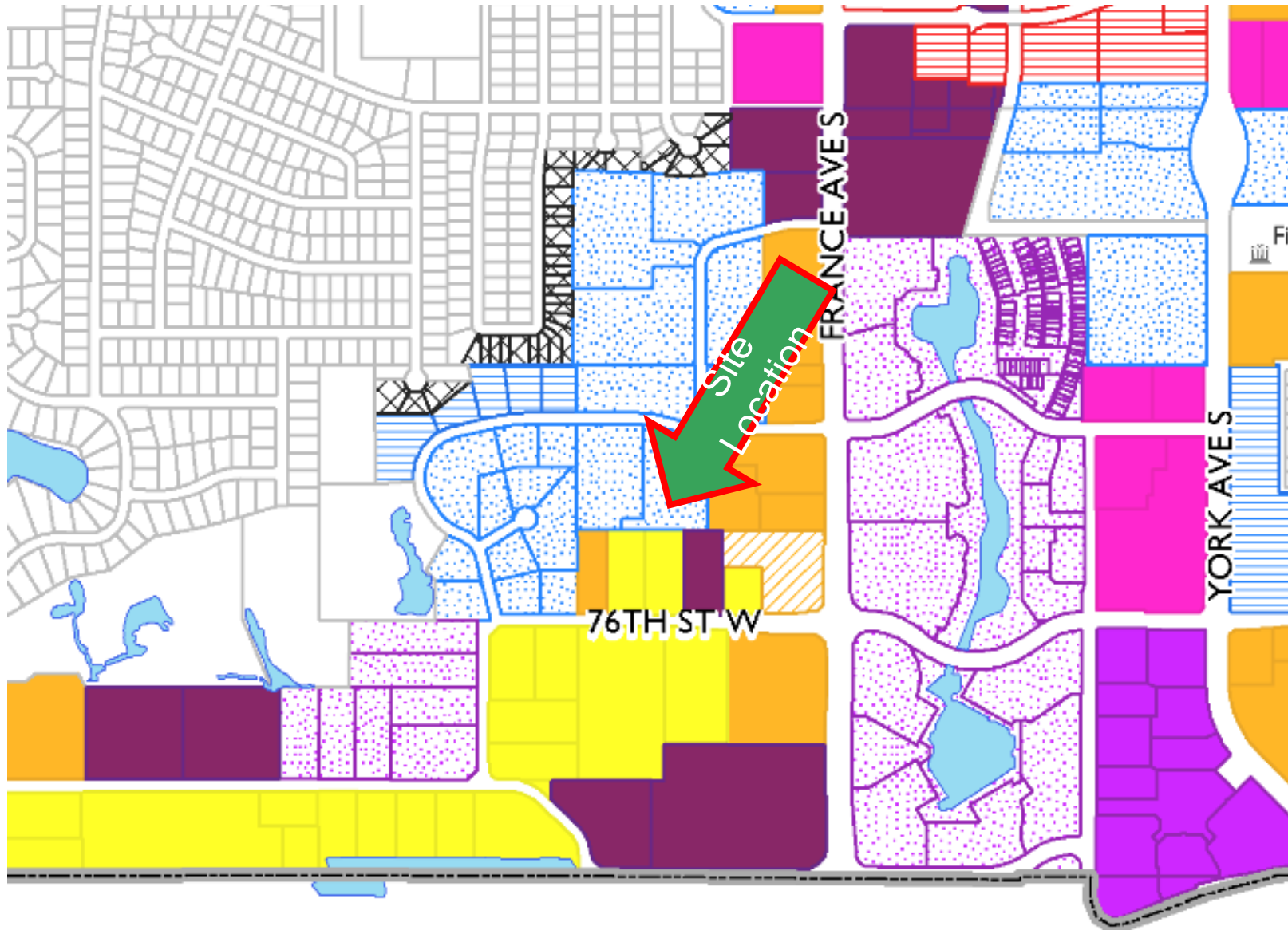
- **Should retail sales (secondhand stores) be allowed in the Industrial Zoning District as a primary use?**
- **Is the site appropriate for Commercial/Retail Zoning?**
- **Should the Comprehensive Plan be amended to allow retail as a primary land use in the OR, Office Residential land use category.**
- **Should the Comprehensive Plan be amended to re-guide the site for Commercial land use.**

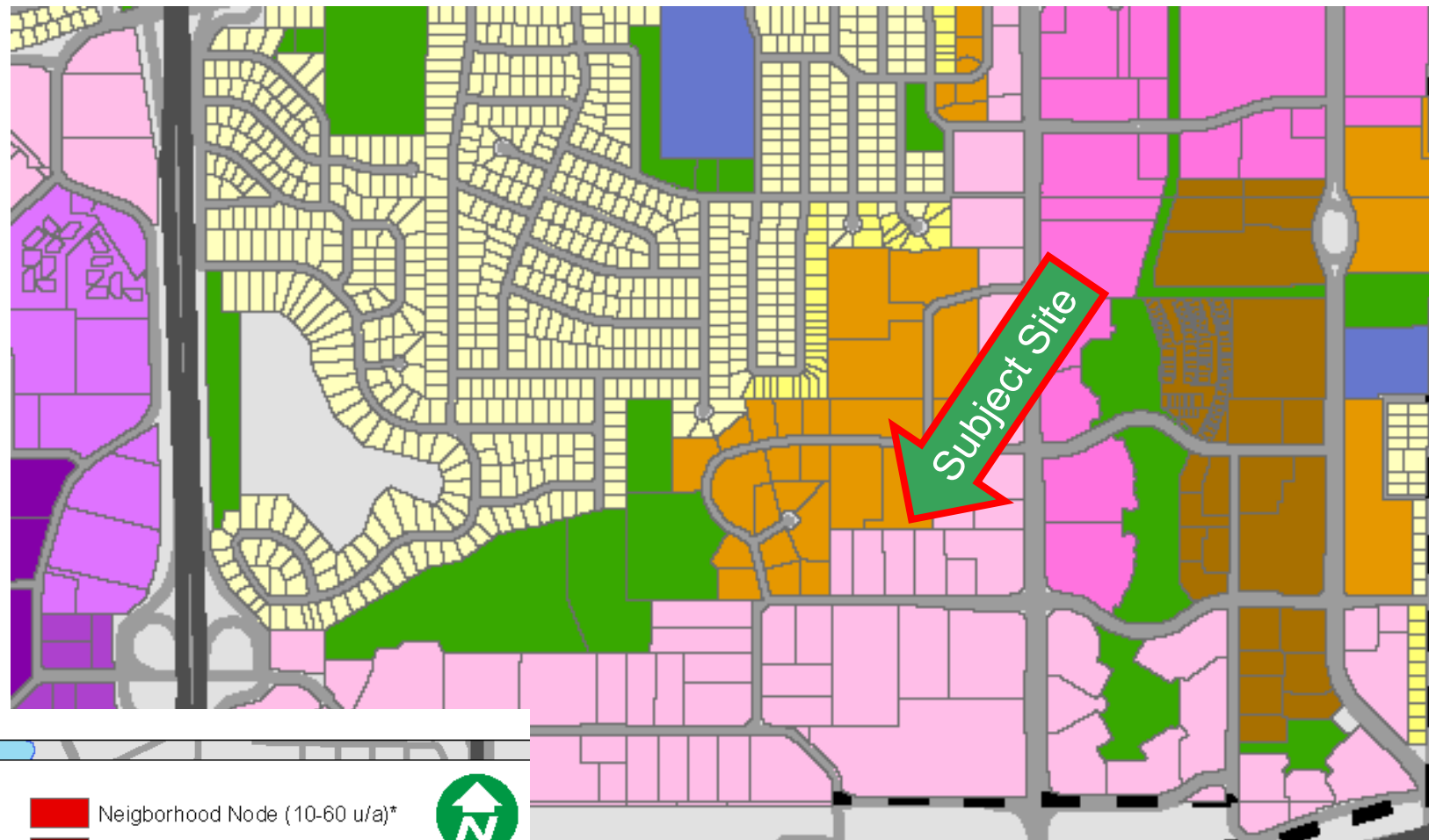


# Zoning Map

## Legend

- R-1 - Single Dwelling Unit
- R-2 - Double Dwelling Unit
- PRD-1 - Planned Residence
- PRD-2 - Planned Residence
- PRD-3 - Planned Residence
- PRD-4 - Planned Residence
- PRD-5 - Planned Residence
- PCD-1 - Planned Commercial
- PCD-2 - Planned Commercial
- PCD-3 - Planned Commercial
- PCD-4 - Planned Commercial
- POD-1 - Planned Office
- POD-2 - Planned Office
- RMD - Regional Medical
- PID - Planned Industrial
- POD - Planned Unit Development
- APD - Automotive Parking
- PSR-4 - Planned Residence
- MDD-4 - Mixed Development
- MDD-5 - Mixed Development
- MDD-6 - Mixed Development
- Lakes
- Creeks
- Edina Boundary
- Railroad
- Public Building
- Public School
- Private School





## Legend

- |                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Low Density Residential (1-5 u/a)                     |  Neighborhood Node (10-60 u/a)*           |
|  Low Density Attached Residential (4-8 u/a)           |  Mixed Use Center (12-100 u/a)*          |
|  Medium Density Residential (5-12 u/a)               |  Community Activity Center (90-150 u/a) |
|  High Density Residential (12-60 u/a)                |  Industrial                             |
|  Greater Southdale District Residential (50-100 u/a) |  Open Space and Parks                   |
|  Office Residential (20-75 u/a)                      |  Public/Semi Public                     |
|  Office                                              |  Regional Medical (50-100 u/a)          |



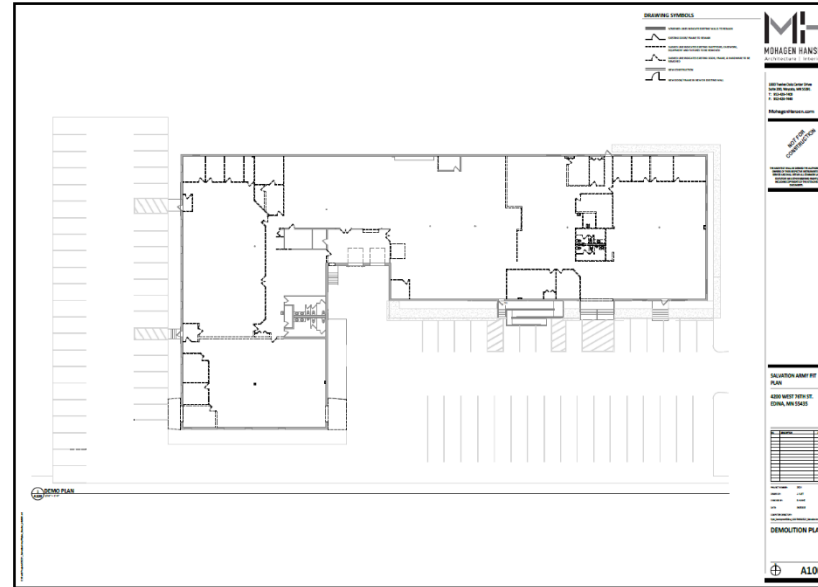
0 3,600  
Feet

 City Limits

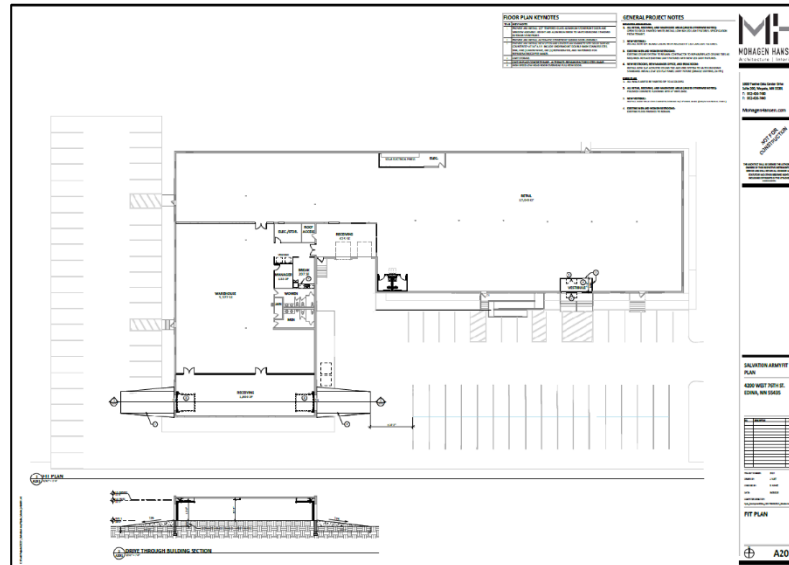
Source: City of Edina, Hennepin County, MetCouncil, MnDOT  
\*Density within these categories varies by subarea. See Table 3.6

# Floor Plan

## INTERIOR DEMO SCOPE:



## INTERIOR FIT PLAN:



**VIA EMAIL**

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Edina Planning Commission  
Edina City Council  
City Planner – Cary Teague

**RE: Sketch Plan Review – 4200 W 76<sup>th</sup> St, Edina, MN**

We have been authorized by **The Salvation Army** as its advisor to submit the enclosed sketch plan review to Tenant's interest to lease space at **4200 W 76<sup>th</sup> St, Edina, MN**. (the "Building").

**PREMISES:**

Space consisting of approximately 27,495 square feet at 4200 W 76<sup>th</sup> St, Edina, MN ("Premises").

**PROJECT SUMMARY, ZONING CONTEXT & COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

The Salvation Army proposes a Family Store resale center with a donation drop-off and processing area at 4200 W 76th Street, repurposing an existing industrial/flex building into a visible, accessible reuse and donation hub along the France Avenue corridor.

- Zoning & Entitlement Context: The property is currently zoned PID (Planned Industrial District). Based on the City's interpretation of "secondhand goods," the proposed donation center and retail-thrift use would require one of the following:
  - Rezoning to a commercial district, along with a Comprehensive Plan Amendment, and a corresponding zoning ordinance amendment to expand the permitted principal use category from "*Secondhand stores, not exceeding 2,500 square feet of gross floor area, but excluding pawn shops*" to "*Secondhand stores, sales floor not exceeding ¾ of gross floor area*"; or
  - A zoning ordinance amendment within the PID district to allow the same above expanded secondhand store definition as a Principal Permitted Use, together with a Comprehensive Plan Amendment.
- Adaptive Reuse & Sustainability: The project follows a model of adaptive reuse, converting an underutilized industrial/flex building rather than demolishing it. This approach aligns with sustainable development practices, preserves existing building stock, and supports a sustainable donation-based model that diverts approximately 95% of donated textiles from landfills.
- Community Need & Equity Considerations: Compared to Edina overall, the surrounding neighborhood has higher concentrations of residents who identify as:
  - Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC)
  - Living in poverty
  - Foreign-born
  - Unemployed
  - Living with a physical or mental disability
  - Lacking access to a personal vehicle

Providing this facility significantly improves access to affordable goods and donation services in an area that has historically had limited access to cost-effective and sustainable retail options. The

site's proximity to nearby affordable housing, including The Sound on 76th, further strengthens its role as a neighborhood-serving use.

- Economic & Corridor Benefits - The Family Store will:
  - Expand affordability in a corridor otherwise dominated by higher-cost retail
  - Create approximately 12 full-time and 24 part-time jobs, supporting local households
  - Reinforce ongoing reinvestment along France Avenue by activating an existing building
  - Operate with no public subsidy, while directing all store proceeds to a nonprofit mission that supports the broader community

In summary, the proposed Family Store transforms an underutilized flex property into a sustainable, community-serving asset that aligns with Edina's adopted plans, market realities, and evolving land use vision—while delivering measurable social, environmental, and economic benefits.

#### **PLANNING RATIONALE & COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ALIGNMENT:**

1. The request supports the mixed evolution of the corridor, not an isolated change. The site sits within a transition area where commercial, office, and residential uses already coexist. Retail is one block away, office is adjacent, and housing is nearby. The proposed use does not introduce a new intensity; it recognizes the corridor's actual land-use condition and supports neighborhood-scale reinvestment consistent with corridor redevelopment.
2. It directly implements the 2040 Comp Plan's goals for reinvestment, sustainability, and adaptive reuse. The project advances key policy areas by:
  - a. Reusing, not demolishing, existing buildings, avoids landfilled building waste and preserves embodied carbon.
  - b. Supporting circular economy reuse, aligning with sustainability goals through donation, recycling, and resale.
  - c. Activating underutilized flex space with a community-serving use rather than requiring new construction.
  - d. Strengthening neighborhood services within walkable mixed-use corridors, as directed by the Plan.

This is one of the few proposals where sustainability outcomes are certain on Day 1, not theoretical.

3. This is not a "flex district" request — it is a policy-based, corridor-wide adjustment that avoids spot zoning. The intent is not to tailor zoning to a single parcel, but to align the land-use designation with how the corridor is functioning today and how the Comp Plan directs it to evolve. The requested action:
  - a. Creates a consistent district interpretation that could apply to similar parcels along this edge of the PID district, similar to LA Fitness across the street;
  - b. Implements established policy rather than creating a new one-off category; and
  - c. Reflects actual conditions, market realities, and community needs, rather than a site-specific experiment.
4. Low-impact commercial use compatible with existing PID standards. The use generates less traffic, noise, and industrial activity than many allowed tenants today. It functions as "commercial-light," fitting the corridor without increasing environmental or operational intensity.

5. The proposal advances community affordability without subsidy. By adapting existing buildings, the project supports retail that would otherwise be cost-prohibitive in new construction. This delivers:
  - a. affordable goods to residents in a high-cost retail area;
  - b. an accessible resource for adjacent income-restricted housing;
  - c. a rare community benefit that requires no TIF, no tax abatement, and no subsidy.Adaptive reuse is the only viable planning tool that enables affordable, community-serving retail in high-value areas like Edina.
6. The zoning code is outdated relative to market and policy conditions. The current code was written for a different era of Edina's growth when single-use office and industrial districts were more active and market-viable. Today, the market favors mixed, right-sized neighborhood commercial and adaptive reuse. Modernizing the designation does not create a new direction—it simply aligns zoning with the City's current economic, environmental, and policy context.

#### **SALVATION ARMY MISSION:**

All Twin Cities Salvation Army thrift store proceeds go to support The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center in Minneapolis.

The [Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center \(ARC\)](#)'s mission is to offer spiritual, emotional, and social assistance to individuals struggling with social and spiritual problems, including substance abuse, to help them regain their lives and relationships. The ARC aims to meet human needs in the name of Jesus Christ without discrimination or harassment based on age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, citizenship, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other characteristic, in accordance with our capacity to help. The ARC's provide a holistic, faith-based program that includes work therapy, counseling, and emotional direction.

Here's a more detailed breakdown of the ARC mission:

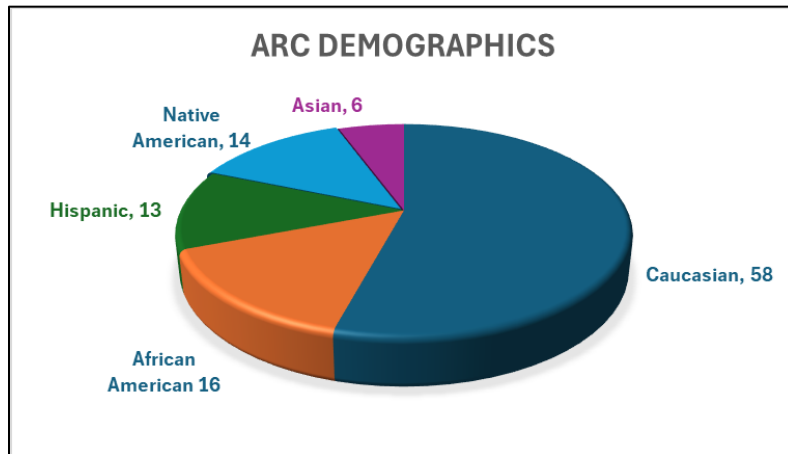
- Restoring Lives: The ARC focuses on restoring individuals' lives and relationships by providing a safe and supportive environment where they can address their challenges.
- Holistic Approach: The program addresses the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs of participants, helping them develop a healthier lifestyle and regain their dignity and independence.
- Faith-Based meaning all are welcome: The ARC's approach is rooted in Christian faith, offering spiritual direction and counseling to help individuals develop an environment of dignity, respect, and inclusivity
- Work Therapy: Participants engage in work therapy as part of the program, developing valuable skills for future employment opportunities and a sense of purpose.
- Community: The ARC fosters a sense of community and belonging, supporting participants as they rebuild their lives and relationships.

Providing compassion to help those struggling with addiction or repeat incarceration. Our rehabilitation programs offer compassion to help people break free from chains – whether those of addiction or repeat incarceration – to find a new life path and reclaim lost hope.

**Salvation Army MPLS ARC 2025 Program Highlights:**

- Intakes - 602
- Graduates with long term sobriety - 121
- Men in program from Edina – 5

Demographics as of 12/17/2025:



Local MPLS ARC Family Store Sustainability Figures (lb.'s):

Clothing - 3,543,956

Metals- 209,002

Shoes - 80,373

Accessories - 176,891

Books/ Paper - 756, 032

Linens - 664,104

Total: 5,430,359

**Contacts:**

- Ted Carlson, CCIM, SIOR
  - Email: [tcarlson@carlsonpartnersllc.com](mailto:tcarlson@carlsonpartnersllc.com)
- Joe Becker, CCIM
  - Email: [jbecker@carlsonpartnersllc.com](mailto:jbecker@carlsonpartnersllc.com)
- Tom Canfield
  - Email: [Tom.Canfield@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:Tom.Canfield@usc.salvationarmy.org)

## RELEVANT LINKS:

*Su11 Oil Co. v. Viii. of New Hope*, 300 Minn. 326, 220 N.W.2d 256 (1974).  
*Kelber v. City of St. Louis Park*, 289 Minn. 456, 185 NW 2d 526 (1971).

Minn. Stat. § 462.357, subd. 2.

A.G. Op. 59-A-32 (Jan. 25, 2002).

*Amco11 Co.p. v. City of Eagan*, 348 N.W.2d 66 (Minn. 1984).

*Olse11 v. City of Hopki11s*, 178 N.W.2d 719,288 Minn. 25 (Minn. 1970).  
*Three Pull, LLC v. City of Mil111eto11ka*, No. A08-1436 (Minn. Ct. App 2009) (unpublished decision).

*Stale, by Rochester Ass'u of Neighborhoods v. City of Rochester*, 268 N.W.2d 885 (Minn. 1978).

The 60-Day Rule discussed previously applies to rezoning requests and an automatic grant of the rezoning will result if the city does not comply with the rule.

Rezoning represents a legislative act and needs only to have a rational basis relating to public health, safety, morals, or general welfare. A city must document, in findings of fact, the rational basis for the rezoning decision. If a city has followed a comprehensive planning process, the findings of fact should further the city's comprehensive plan. For example, the fact that property zoned for residential purposes has greater value if used for commercial purposes has never been grounds for rezoning when the surrounding property is predominantly residential.

### (1) Rezoning residential property

When property gets rezoned from residential to commercial or industrial, a two-thirds majority of all members of the city council is required. (This means there must be four affirmative votes on a five-member council, in most cases.) For other rezoning decisions, a simple majority vote of all members is all that is required, meaning three out of five votes for a five-member council.

The Minnesota attorney general has issued an opinion that charter cities may not alter this voting requirement in their charter. The purpose of state law is to provide a uniform set of procedures for city planning and such procedures apply to all cities, charter or statutory.

### (2) Spot zoning

Property owners do not have vested rights in the specific zoning of their parcel.

Cities may exercise their legislative discretion to rezone property in furtherance of the public, health, safety and welfare. However, cities should avoid a type of rezoning known as "spot zoning."

Spot zoning usually involves the rezoning of a small parcel of land in a manner that:

- Has no supporting rational basis that relates to promoting public welfare.
- Establishes a use classification inconsistent with surrounding uses and creates an island of nonconforming use within a larger zoned district (for example one lot where industrial uses are permitted in an otherwise residential zone).

## RELEVANT LINKS:

*Alexander v. City of Minneapolis*, 125 N.W.2d 583,267 Minn. 155 (Minn. 1963).

See Handbook, *Environmental Regulations* for more information on environmental review.  
Minn. Stat. § 1160.  
Minn. R. ch. 4410.  
Minn. Stat. § 160.02.

Minn. Stat. § 15.99, subd. 3(d), (e).  
Minn. Stat. § 116D.  
Minn. R. ch. 4410.  
See Section V-A *The 60-Day Rule*.

Minn. Stat. § 462.353, subd. 4(a).  
Minn. Stat. § 462.353, subd. 4(b).

Minn. Stat. § 471.462.

- Dramatically reduces the value for uses specified in the zoning ordinance of either the rezoned plot or abutting property.

Spot zoning that results in a total destruction or substantial diminution in the value of property may be considered a form of regulatory taking of private property without compensation.

In these rare instances, courts may award a property owner compensation for damages related to a legislative rezoning.

## D. Environmental review

Minnesota has adopted a comprehensive and detailed environmental review program to determine the significant environmental effects of private and governmental actions. The idea behind the program is that if governmental bodies require documents that identify the environmental consequences of a proposed development and those documents are available to the public, decision-makers can incorporate environmental protection into the proposed development. The law prohibits the issuance of permits or development prior to completion of necessary documents.

The state-mandated environmental review process usually occurs in conjunction with a city's administration of its zoning ordinance. The environmental review process may require a city to delay consideration of an application. The 60-Day Rule allows an extension for these purposes.

## E. Fees and escrow

Proper zoning administration can require significant financial commitment from a city. However, a city may establish land use fees under the Municipal Planning Act sufficient to defray the costs incurred by a city in reviewing, investigating, and administering an application related to the zoning ordinance.

Fees must be fair, reasonable, proportionate, and linked to the actual cost of the service for which the fee is imposed. All cities must adopt management and accounting procedures to ensure fees are maintained and used only for the purpose for which they are collected. Upon request, a city must explain the basis of its fees.

Upon request by an applicant for a permit, license, or other approval relating to real estate development or construction, cities must provide a written non-binding estimate of consulting fees to be charged to the applicant based on the information available at that time.



**Item Number:** 9.3

**Department:** Public Works

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner

**Item Title:** Citywide Speed Limit Reduction Evaluation

**Action Requested:**

Receive evaluation report on the citywide speed limit reduction initiative and approve staff recommendations.

**Information/Background:**

In 2021, the City of Edina reduced speed limits on most local streets from 30 mph to 25 mph. This reduction was intended to improve safety and mobility for all users and all modes of transportation, consistent with goals reflected in the Comprehensive Plan, the Living Streets Plan, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and the Active Routes to School Plan. This report will evaluate the impact of this change and provide recommendations for additional actions to support roadway safety. See attached staff report and presentation.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

The cost of implementation was estimated at \$10,000. Actual costs were \$12,326.10. New signage was purchased through the Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety (PACS) Fund and installed by Public Works staff over the course of several months. 245 traffic control signs were removed, replaced or added in 2021. Between 2021 and 2025, approximately \$7,500 of PACS Funds were used for advertising and marketing activities.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

This initiative supported goals within the Comprehensive Plan, the Living Streets Plan, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and the Active Routes to School Plan.



Livable City



Better Together

**Values Impact:**



Equity

Lower speed limits prioritize the needs of vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and transit riders.



Health

Lower speed limits have the potential to reduce the likelihood and severity of motor vehicle crashes.

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Staff Report: Speed Limit Reduction Evaluation
2. Staff Presentation



## Staff Report

**Date:** February 4, 2026  
**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner  
**Subject:** Citywide Speed Limit Reduction Evaluation

### Background

In 2021, the City of Edina reduced speed limits on most local streets from 30 mph to 25 mph. This reduction was intended to improve safety and mobility for all users and all modes of transportation, consistent with goals reflected in the Comprehensive Plan, the Living Streets Plan, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and the Active Routes to School Plan. This report will evaluate the impact of this change and provide recommendations for additional actions to support roadway safety.

Several other cities adjacent to Edina have also reduced speed limits on local roads, including Minneapolis (2020), St. Louis Park (2021), Richfield (2024) and Bloomington (2024). The Cities of Minnetonka and Eden Prairie have not made changes to local speed limits. Hennepin County also made no changes to speed limits on their roadways within Edina.

### Funding

The cost of implementation was estimated at \$10,000. Actual costs were \$12,326.10. New signage was purchased through the Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety (PACS) Fund and installed by Public Works staff over the course of several months. 245 traffic control signs were removed, replaced or added in 2021. Between 2021 and 2025, approximately \$7,500 of PACS Funds were used for advertising and marketing activities.

### Communication

Shortly after implementation, Communications and Engineering launched the Drive 25 campaign to raise awareness of the change in local speed limits. Information was provided to the general public through articles and advertisements in the *Sun Current* and *Edition: Edina*, public service announcement and *Agenda: Edina* videos, and social media posts. Staff also purchased branded car coasters and distributed them out at public events (most recently, at Fire Station #2 open house).

### Enforcement

Speed limits are enforced through verbal warnings and citations issued by the Edina Police Department at traffic stops. In an average year, EPD issues 14,200-16,500 citations; of these, approximately 52% (7,400-8,600) have a speed-related charge. EPD's Traffic Division also utilizes a movable, radar speed trailer that informs drivers of their speed relative to the posted limit. Occasionally, targeted enforcement is used at specific locations during specific time frames where staff or residents have identified speeding concerns. In 2025, the Engineering Department purchased a temporary speed display sign to aid in targeted speed enforcement. The temporary sign is relocated approximately every two months.



No additional enforcement or police resources were dedicated as part of this initiative. Traffic data collected at the time of implementation indicated that most drivers on local roads in Edina travel at or below the posted speed limits. The most effective and sustainable strategy to address speeding is to make physical changes that make motorists feel uncomfortable speeding. Such changes include narrowing streets and installing traffic calming devices. These treatments are consistent with the guiding principles of the Living Streets Plan.

## Speed and Crash Analysis

Staff reviewed speed and crash data as one metric of the impact of the speed limit change. Crash data was obtained from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Speed data was collected by Engineering staff at 60 locations for each analysis period. At each location, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, or the speed at which 85% of vehicles are traveling at or below, was calculated. This metric is commonly used in traffic engineering to set speed limits. The results were categorized based on the associated roadway's classification in the Living Streets Plan (Local, Local Connector, Collector, and Minor Arterial). For this analysis, "before implementation" refers to 2018-2020, while "after implementation" refers to 2022-2024. 2021 was omitted from this analysis as speed limits varied across the City while signage was being replaced or installed.

### Speed Analysis

- 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds increased on Local streets by 9.3% (25.8 mph before to 28.2 mph after).
- 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds remained steady on Local Connector streets (28.7 mph before to 28.3 mph after).
- 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds increased on Collector streets by 4.4% (34.2 mph to 35.7 mph after).
- 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds increased on Minor Arterial streets by 7.1% (38.2 mph before to 40.9 mph after).

### Crash Analysis

- Frequency:
  - The average annual number of crashes on county, Municipal State Aid (MSA) and local roads remained largely unchanged after implementation. Average annual crashes were approximately 215 per year before implementation and 219 per year after implementation.
  - Significant reductions in crashes were observed in 2020 and 2021 (20–66% across all roadway jurisdictions) and are attributed to reduced travel demand during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - By 2022, annual crash rates returned to pre-pandemic levels on local and county roads.
- Distribution:
  - The distribution of crashes by roadway jurisdiction remained consistent before and after implementation (approximately 20% local, 36% MSA, and 44% county).
- Severity:
  - No fatal crashes were reported during the entire analysis period (2018-2024).
  - On county roads, the proportion of serious injury crashes remained unchanged (1.8% of total crashes).



- On MSA and local roads, serious injury crashes more than doubled as a percentage of total crashes but remained below 3%.
- Minor or possible injury crashes declined on county roads and remained generally comparable on MSA and local roads.
- Property damage crashes increased on county and local roads and remained stable on MSA roads.
- Mode:
  - Pedestrian and bicycle crashes on county roads remained stable at approximately 3.2% of total crashes.
  - Pedestrian and bicycle crashes on MSA roads increased from approximately 2.3% to 6.6% of total crashes.
  - Pedestrian and bicycle crashes on local roads increased from approximately 2.6% to 5.8% of total crashes.

### Community Feedback

Between 2015 and 2025, the City's biennial Quality of Life survey asked residents to assess traffic concerns in their neighborhoods. In 2019 (before implementation), 41% of respondents identified it as a moderate-to-extreme problem. This number dropped to 34% in 2021, then rose to 38% in 2023 and 41% in 2025.

### Literature Review

#### Impact of Speed Limit Change on Urban Streets (Local Road Research Board, 2023)

Researchers surveyed 33 cities within the Twin Cities metro area and identified the City of St. Louis Park as planning to implement a citywide change in speed limits. Speed data was collected in the summer of 2021 (2-4 months before implementation) and in the summer of 2022 (6-8 months after implementation).

There was considerable variability, with before/after differences in mean speed ranging from a decrease of 7 mph to an increase of 2.4 mph. On average, mean speeds were slightly lower (1-2 mph) in the after period, both on streets where the speed limit was lowered and on streets where the limit was unchanged. Overall, researchers found that changes in posted speed limits did not lead to speed decreases. Noting that driving is a habitual behavior, researchers suggested a driver's adaptation to a lower speed limit may happen over a longer time frame in the absence of physical roadway changes or strict speed enforcement.

#### City Speed Limit Report (Minnesota Department of Transportation, 2024)

This report was intended to determine the impact of the 2019 state legislation that allowed cities to change local speed limits without MnDOT approval. The study included a before-and-after evaluation of speed and crash data in 10 Minnesota cities (including Minneapolis and St. Louis Park). Most measured speeds increased from 2019 to 2023, while fatal and serious injury crash rates remained relatively constant over that same period. Total crashes on local roadways decreased from 287 in 2019 to 154 in 2023 (a 46% reduction). However, the study notes that the state legislature, in 2021, eliminated the requirement to report vehicle crashes if there were no injuries or if estimated property damage did not exceed \$1,000. This change may account for the significant decrease in total crashes.



## Evaluation of Driver Speeds After Implementation of Speed Limit Reductions on Urban Streets (Local Road Research Board, 2025)

This study follows up on the 2023 study conducted in St. Louis Park to evaluate the long-term impact of speed limit reductions. Researchers will survey which Minnesota cities have lowered speed limits, collect and analyze additional data, and identify best practices for other agencies. This study is ongoing; staff will review the results once published.

### **Conclusions**

- Vehicle speeds tended to increase after implementation across all roadway classifications. Because speeds on Minor Arterial streets increased despite no change to their speed limits, this suggests an external factor contributing to rising speeds.
- Speed limit reduction did not result in a measurable change in overall crash frequency on local roads.
- Crashes involving vulnerable road users increased on MSA and local roads.
- A simple before-and-after analysis does not account for potential compounding factors such as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Public perception of speeding on local streets has not changed from pre-pandemic conditions.

### **Recommendations**

Reducing speed limits is one part of a comprehensive strategy to address speeding. Long-term success will only be achieved by implementing multiple strategies. Based on the results of this evaluation, staff recommends the following next steps:

- Existing actions to continue:
  - Implement street width reductions per the Living Streets Plan as part of scheduled roadway reconstruction projects
  - Allocate \$20,000 per year from PACS Fund for traffic safety improvements
  - Drive 25 advertising and marketing campaign
  - Utilize dynamic display speed signs to supplement existing enforcement efforts
  - Monitor traffic and crash data for the next three years to evaluate long-term trends
- Additional actions for consideration:
  - Prioritize safety improvements identified by the Safe and Equitable Mobility Action Plan after adoption
  - Implement street width reductions per the Living Streets Plan as part of scheduled roadway maintenance projects
  - Increase PACS Funding for multi-modal transportation infrastructure and safety improvements
  - Purchase a second temporary dynamic speed display sign to supplement existing enforcement efforts



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

# Citywide Speed Limit Reduction Evaluation

February 4, 2026

EdinaMN.gov

## Background

- City reduced speed limits on most local streets in 2021
  - Intended to improve safety and mobility for all modes
  - Supports goals of the Comprehensive Plan, Living Streets Plan, Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, and Active Routes to School Plan
- Staff committed to evaluating the impact several years after implementation
  - Speed and crash data
  - Community feedback
  - Literature review



# Funding

- \$12,326.10 implementation cost (\$10,000 estimated), funded by Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety (PACS) Fund
- 245 signs removed, replaced or added by Public Works staff



# Communication

- Edition: Edina story
- Agenda: Edina video
- Sun Current advertisements
- Social media posts
- PSAs/YouTube ads
- Promotional car coasters

Ads for City of Edina in Edina, MN



Jan 08, 2026. City of Edina Public Notice Ads from Sun Current



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

## Drive 25: City Lowers Speed Limit on Residential Streets

City Hopes to Improve Safety for All Modes of Transportation

BY KAITLIN GAULT

It's official: The speed limit on most local streets in Edina will be reduced to 25 mph this fall. The reason for the change? Safety.



"Studies have shown that lower speed limits reduce likelihood and severity of motor vehicle crashes," said Transportation Planner Andrew Scipioni. "Lowering speed limits across the city also creates a scenario where streets are designed to support all modes of transportation, not just motor vehicles. We are really taking into account the needs of pedestrians, cyclists and transit users so that the City's transportation system is one that supports all ages and abilities."

Earlier this year, the City Council approved speed limits for each street within Edina's jurisdiction. At its Aug. 4 meeting, the City Council approved an implementation plan for the change, which includes signage, communication, enforcement and evaluation.

Reducing speed limits is one piece of a comprehensive strategy to address speeding. The change also supports the City's Comprehensive Plan, the Living Streets Plan, the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan and the Active Routes to School Plan.

Some collector and arterial streets will remain at 30 mph because they serve a regional traffic need. Examples of streets that will remain at 30 mph include Interlachen Boulevard, a portion of West 50th Street by Minnesota Highway 100, and the frontage road system along Interstate 494.

Scipioni said residents can expect to notice the reduction of speed limits soon through various communication channels and signage.

About 250 signs will need to be removed, replaced or added. Crews will aim to



Edina residents can soon expect to see a reduction of most speed limits within City boundaries. The change from 30 mph to 25 mph aims to improve safety for all modes of transportation. (Photo by Kaitlin Gault)

complete a quadrant each month, starting on the east side and working west. All signs should be completed by end of 2021.

"We really want everyone to understand that this is more than reducing speed limits," said Scipioni. "This is part of a comprehensive approach to improve pedestrian safety, complementary of minimum roadway widths and redesign, and adding new pedestrian, cyclist and transit infrastructure to our city. We have to do all three to achieve long-term safety."

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Agenda: Edina - Speed Limit Changes - Early March 2021



"Drive 25" PSA



# Enforcement

- EPD issues 14,200-16,500 citations per year (52% are speed-related)
- Radar speed trailer rotated based on resident/staff concerns
- Occasional targeted enforcement
- In 2025, Engineering purchased a temporary dynamic display speed sign
- No additional enforcement resources dedicated as part of this initiative
  - Traffic data indicated more drivers on local streets travel at or below the speed limit
  - Physical changes to roadways are more effective and sustainable strategy



# Speed Analysis

| Roadway Classification | Before Implementation (2018-2020) | After Implementation (2022-2024) | % Change         |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Local                  | 25.8 mph                          | 28.2 mph                         | +2.4 mph (+9.3%) |
| Local Connector        | 28.7 mph                          | 28.3 mph                         | -0.4 mph (-1.4%) |
| Collector              | 34.2 mph                          | 35.7 mph                         | +1.5 mph (+4.4%) |
| Minor Arterial         | 38.2 mph                          | 40.9 mph                         | +2.7 mph (+7.1%) |



# Crash Analysis

- Average annual number of crashes was comparable
- 20-66% fewer crashes reported in 2020-2021; rates returned to pre-pandemic levels by 2022
- Distribution by jurisdiction was comparable (20% local, 36% MSA, 44% county)
- No fatal crashes reported 2018-2024



# Crash Analysis

- Serious injury crashes more than doubled on MSA and local roads (still below 3%)
- Minor/possible injury crashes declined on county roads
- Property damage crashes increased on county roads
- Pedestrian and bicycle crashes as a percentage of total crashes:
  - Consistent on county roads (3.2%)
  - Increased on MSA roads (2.3% to 6.6%)
  - Increased on local roads (2.6% to 5.8%)

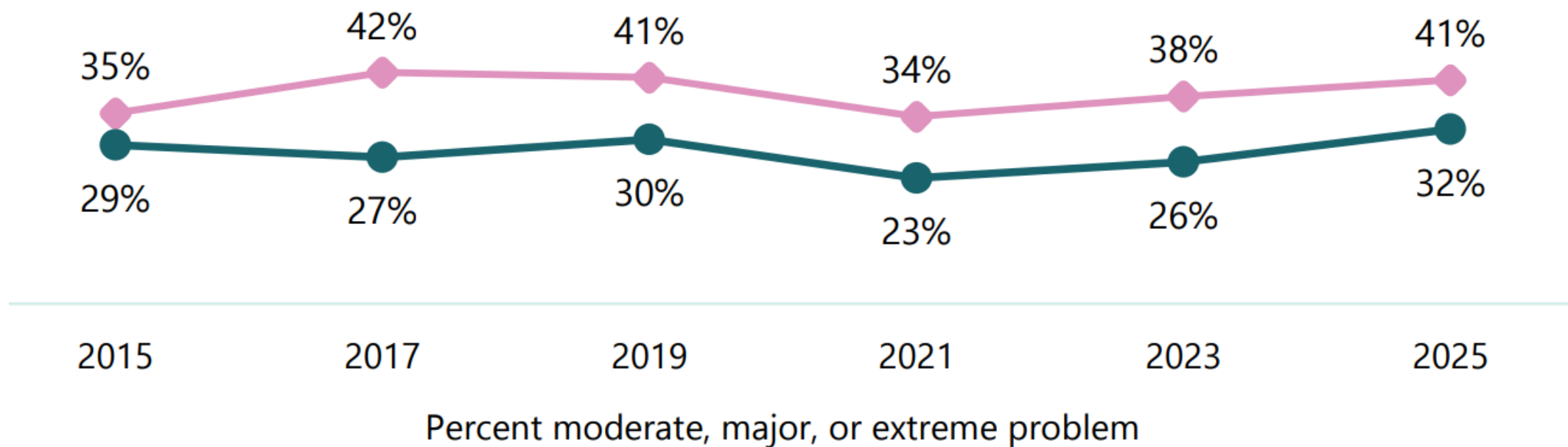


# Community Feedback

**Figure 19: Traffic Problems by Year**

*Please rate how much of a problem, if at all, you feel each of the following is in Edina.*

—◆— Traffic speeding in your neighborhood    —●— Stop sign violations in your neighborhood



# Literature Review

- *Impact of Speed Limit Change on Urban Streets (LRRB, 2023)*
  - Considerable variability in speeds (-7mph to +2.4 mph)
  - Found that changes in posted speed limits did not lead to speed decreases
  - Suggested driver behavior may change over a longer period of time
- *City Speed Limit Report (MnDOT, 2024)*
  - Most measured speeds increased from 2019 to 2023
  - Fatal and serious injury crashes remained consistent
  - Total crashes decreased
- *Evaluation of Driver Speeds After Implementation of Speed Limit Reductions on Urban Streets (LRRB, 2025)*
  - Follow-up on 2023 study, still in progress



# Conclusions

- Vehicle speeds tended to increase after implementation across all roadway classifications
  - Minor Arterials increased despite no change in speed limits
- Speed limit reduction did not result in a measurable change in overall crash frequency on local roads
- Crashes involving vulnerable road users increased on MSA and local roads
- Analysis does not account for impact of COVID-19 pandemic
- Public perception of speeding on local streets has not changed from pre-pandemic conditions



# Recommendations

- Existing actions to continue:
  - Implement street width reductions per Living Streets with roadway reconstruction projects
  - Allocate \$20,000/year from PACS Fund for traffic safety improvements
  - Utilize dynamic display speed signs to supplement enforcement efforts
  - Drive 25 advertising and marketing campaign
  - Monitor traffic and crash data for the next three years
- Additional actions for consideration:
  - Prioritize safety improvements at locations identified by the SEMAP
  - Implement street width reductions per Living Streets with roadway maintenance projects
  - Purchase additional temporary dynamic display speed sign
  - Increase PACS Fund revenue for multi-modal infrastructure and safety improvements





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**Item Number:** 9.4

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Scott Neal, City Manager

**Item Title:** Ordinance 2025-17: Amending Chapter 22 – Miscellaneous Offenses to add Article XI. – Firearms

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**Action Requested:**

Approve second reading to adopt ordinance 2025-17 amending chapter 22 – Miscellaneous Offenses to add Article XI. Firearms and approve summary publication.

**Information/Background:**

The Edina City Council is considering a proposed Firearm Safety and Safe Storage Ordinance that would amend Chapter 22 of the City Code to create a new article regulating certain firearms and firearm components within the City. The proposed ordinance includes prohibitions related to assault weapons, large-capacity magazines, binary triggers, and ghost guns, as well as requirements intended to prevent negligent firearm storage.

City Council held a special town hall meeting on January 6, 2026. Individuals were allowed to provide their feedback on the proposed ordinance and no action was taken at the town hall meeting. Online feedback was open until Sunday, January 11, 2026. Eighty-nine online submissions were received and have been included in the board portal for council review.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

If the City Council chooses to move forward with adoption or implementation of the ordinance, staff would need to conduct a more comprehensive analysis of potential financial impacts. This could include enforcement considerations, staff capacity, legal review, communication needs, and any ongoing administrative or operational costs associated with implementation.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

The proposed ordinance relates to the City's broader commitment to public safety, community well-being, and reliable service. It aligns with Council's role in considering regulatory tools intended to protect residents and respond to emerging community concerns. Input gathered through this process will help inform whether and how the ordinance aligns with City priorities, legal authority, and community expectations before any further Council action is taken.



Reliable Service



Better Together

## Values Impact:



Engagement

The proposed ordinance may generate heightened community interest and dialogue around public safety and individual responsibility. By creating structured opportunities for participation, the City aims to support respectful engagement and provide space for residents with differing perspectives to be heard.



Equity

Gun violence disproportionately impacts economically disadvantaged communities and communities of color. School shootings are continuing to increase, adding to gun violence as a leading cause of death among children.



Health

The proposed ordinance is being considered in the context of public health and safety, with a focus on reducing the risk of injury or harm related to firearms.

## Supporting Documentation:

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Proposed Firearm Safety and Safe Storage Ordinance Feedback (Board Portal)



**The City of Edina Ordains:**

**Section I.** Chapter 22 – MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES of the Edina City Code is amended to add the following new Article XI. – FIREARMS:

**ARTICLE XI. – FIREARMS**

**Sec. 22-314. – Purpose.**

The City Council finds that there is a public safety and welfare crisis resulting from gun violence in the City. The City finds that semi-automatic military-style assault weapons, ghost guns, large-capacity magazines, and binary triggers have not commonly been used for self-defense purposes, yet these firearms and firearm modifications inherently have a significantly higher capacity for causing damage, injury, and death compared to ordinary firearms used for lawful self-defense purposes. The City finds it necessary for the public safety and welfare to regulate such firearms and firearm modifications to mitigate the damage, injury, and death posed by use of such weapons for non-lawful purposes.

**Sec. 22-315. – Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this Article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Assault weapon* means a semiautomatic military-style assault weapon, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Section 624.712, subd. 7 and as listed by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 624.712, subd. 8, as may amended from time to time.

*Binary trigger* means a device, mechanism, component, or part designed, marketed, created, or assembled as part of a firearm to discharge one round of ammunition when the trigger is pulled and an additional round of ammunition when the trigger is released.

*Firearm* means a firearm, as defined in Minnesota Statutes, Section 97A.015, subd. 19, as may be amended from time to time, but not including firearms collected as part of the licensed curation of relic firearms/curios per 27 C.F.R. 478.

*Firearm component* means any component or part that is designed, manufactured, created, printed, or assembled to form part of a firearm.

*Ghost gun* means any firearm or firearm component not marked with a serial number required under federal, state, or local law, whether manufactured, assembled, or constructed in whole or in part by any person. Ghost gun does not include any firearms manufactured prior to 1968, antique firearms as defined in Title 18, Section 921(a)(16) of the United States Code, or firearms incapable of discharging a

shot by means of an explosive or otherwise incapable of being restored to a firing condition.

*Large capacity magazine* means any ammunition feeding device, whether accessory to a firearm or a firearm component, that has a capacity of more than twenty (20) rounds or is designed, marketed, created, or assembled to have a capacity of more than twenty (20) rounds. A large capacity magazine does not include a tubular magazine that is contained in a lever-action firearm or a .22 caliber fixed tubular magazine.

*Locking device* means a firearm component, firearm accessory, or external device or mechanism that renders a firearm inaccessible, inoperable, or both. A locking device includes but is not limited to biometric locks, trigger locks, barrel locks, cylinder locks, gun vaults, locked cabinets, locked boxes, or any other locked container where a key is kept separate from the container and not readily available to an unauthorized person.

*Person* means any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity.

*Unauthorized person* means a person who is not the owner of the firearm, does not have permission from the owner of the firearm to possess the firearm, a person under the age of 18 years old, or a person who is otherwise prohibited under federal, state, or local law from possessing the firearm.

#### **Sec. 22-316. – Prohibited Acts.**

- a. *Possession.* No person shall possess an assault weapon, large capacity magazine, binary trigger, or ghost gun within the City.
- b. *Manufacturing.* No person shall manufacture, produce, assemble, or construct an assault weapon, large capacity magazine, binary trigger, or ghost gun within the City.
- c. *Sale or transfer.* No person shall sell, transfer, or import an assault weapon, large capacity magazine, binary trigger, or ghost gun within the City.
- d. *Negligent storage.* No person shall negligently store or leave a loaded or unloaded firearm unattended in a location where the person knows or reasonably should know that an unauthorized person is likely to gain access to the firearm. It shall not constitute negligent storage for a person to take reasonable steps to secure a firearm against unauthorized access with a locking device.

#### **Sec. 22-317. – Exceptions.**

The prohibitions in section 22-316 do not apply in the following circumstances:

- a. Active or reserve federal, state, county, or municipal law enforcement officers, including members of the armed forces of the United States, National Guard, and reserves, where the officer or member is duly authorized to perform a prohibited act within the scope of their official duties;
- b. Persons transporting a prohibited firearm or firearm component through the City, provided that such firearm or firearm component is unloaded and in a locked container and the transport otherwise complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws;
- c. Persons transporting a prohibited firearm or firearm component to a law enforcement agency, military agency, federal firearms licensee, or other entity lawfully permitted to receive such

firearms for disposal, sale, resale, or transfer occurring outside of the City and the transport otherwise complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and

- d. Persons actively using a prohibited firearm or firearm component for lawful self-defense purposes.

**Sec. 22-318. – Penalties.**

- a. Each day that a violation of section 22-317 continues is a misdemeanor offense subject to imprisonment for not more than 90 days, payment of a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both.
- b. Nothing in this section shall preclude the City from seeking injunctive or equitable relief in addition to or in lieu of criminal prosecution to prevent or abate violations of this Article.

**Sec. 22-319. – Effective Dates**

This Article shall not be effective or enforced until the date the City Council certifies by resolution that this Article is not preempted by state law.

**Sec. 22-320. – Severability.**

If any portion of this Article is held invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that portion shall be severed and the remaining portions of this Article remain in full force and effect.

**Section 2.** This ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication, and passage of a resolution by the City Council certifying that this ordinance is not preempted by state law.

First Reading: January 20, 2026

Second Reading: February 3, 2026

**Summary for Publication:**

Ordinance 2025-17 adds firearm regulations to Chapter 22 of the City Code to address public safety concerns. The ordinance prohibits the possession, manufacture, and sale of certain firearms and firearm accessories, including assault weapons, ghost guns, large-capacity magazines, and binary triggers, and requires firearms to be stored to prevent unauthorized access. Exceptions apply for law enforcement, lawful transport, disposal or transfer outside the City, and lawful self-defense. The ordinance will take effect only after the City Council certifies it is not preempted by state law.



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**Item Number:** 9.5

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Sharon Allison, City Clerk

**Item Title:** Ordinance 2026-02: Amending Section 4-9-9; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 6 Article III Lawful Gambling of the Edina City Code

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**Action Requested:**

Approve Ordinance 2026-02 Amending Section 4-9-9; Repealing and Replacing Chapter 6 Article III Lawful Gambling of the Edina City Code, and grant first reading.

**Information/Background:**

On January 20, the City Council directed staff to return with the lawful gambling ordinance for first reading based on staff's recommendations. The proposed ordinance establishes a local framework for regulating lawful gambling activities within the City, including limits on permits, eligibility requirements, trade area spending, and financial contributions.

Since the January 20 discussion, staff made one technical adjustment to the ordinance consistent with Council direction. Staff previously recommended discontinuing local background checks for officers of nonprofit organizations conducting exempt gambling. To implement this change, references to a local permit requirement were removed from the ordinance. Instead, nonprofit organizations seeking to conduct exempt gambling will be required to notify the City at least 30 days prior to the gambling event, consistent with state law. Staff will review and sign the organization's LG220 Application for Exempt Permit, which the organization will then submit to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board. Exempt permits are issued to nonprofit organizations conducting gambling for five or fewer days in a calendar year and awarding less than \$50,000 in prizes annually.

The rest of the ordinance remains the same as presented on Jan. 20:

- **Premises Permits:** The ordinance limits the number of premises permits initially allowed within the city. Staff recommend starting with three (3) premises permits to allow staff to get a full understanding of the demand and staff's capacity to manage the funds and reporting requirements.
- **Eligibility:** Only organizations within Edina's city limits/jurisdictions.
- **Trade Area:** A required percentage or all of net gambling proceeds must be expended within the City's trade area. Staff recommend 70%. The trade area is all cities contiguous to Edina.
- **Financial Requirements:**
  - Impose up to 3% local gambling tax on gross receipts from gambling, minus prizes actually paid out. The tax must only be used to cover the cost of regulating lawful gambling. Staff recommend 3%.
  - Contribution of 10% of net profit to a fund administered by the City. Use of funds are to be determined by the Council. Potential uses could include community events such as the

4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.

If approved on first reading, the ordinance will return to the City Council for a second reading and possible adoption.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

Implementation of the ordinance is expected to result in modest administrative workload associated with processing permits, reviewing reports, and monitoring compliance. The proposed 3% local gambling tax is intended to offset the City's regulatory costs. In addition, the required 10% contribution of net profits to a City-administered fund could provide a modest revenue source to support Council-identified community priorities.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

**Values Impact:**

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Staff Presentation, Feb. 4, 2026
2. Lawful Gambling Opportunities for Organizations to Benefit
3. Staff Presentation, Jan. 20, 2026



**The City Council of Edina, Minnesota ordains:**

**Section 1.** Chapter 4, Section 4-9-9, paragraph (c) of the Edina City Code, related to prohibited conditions in licensed liquor establishments, is amended to read as follows:

*c. Gambling prohibited.* Except for lawful gambling conducted in accordance with chapter 6, article III of this code, gambling Gambling is prohibited in licensed premises.

**Section 2.** Chapter 6, Article III, relating to Law Gambling, is repealed in its entirety and replaced with the following.

**Sec. 6-60. Adoption of state law by reference.**

The provisions of Minn. Stat. ch. 349, as they may be amended from time to time, are hereby adopted by reference and are made a part of this ordinance as if set out in full. It is the intention of the Council that all future amendments of Minn. Stat. ch. 349, are hereby adopted by reference or referenced as if they had been in existence at the time this ordinance was adopted.

**Sec. 6-61. City may be more restrictive than state law.**

The Council is authorized by the provisions of Minn. Stat. § 349.213, as it may be amended from time to time, to impose, and has imposed in this ordinance, additional restrictions on gambling within its limits beyond those contained in Minn. Stat. ch. 349, as it may be amended from time to time.

**Sec. 6-62. Purpose.**

The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate lawful gambling within the City of Edina, to prevent its commercialization, to ensure the integrity of operations, and to provide for the use of net profits only for lawful purposes.

**Sec. 6-63. Definitions.**

In addition to the definitions contained in Minn. Stat. § 349.12, as it may be amended from time to time, the following terms are defined for purposes of this ordinance:

*BOARD* means the State of Minnesota Gambling Control Board.

*CITY* means the City of Edina.

*COUNCIL* means the city council of the City of Edina.

*LICENSED ORGANIZATION* means an organization licensed by the Board.

*PREMISES PERMIT* means a permit issued by the Board and approved by the city council allowing lawful

gambling at a specific location.

*TRADE AREA* means a geographic area comprised of the City of Edina and each city contiguous to the city.

**Sec. 6-64. Applicability.**

This ordinance regulates all forms of lawful gambling within the city except bingo conducted in a nursing home or senior citizen housing project under the conditions set forth in Minn. Stat. § 349.166, subd. 1(b).

**Sec. 6-65. Lawful gambling permitted.**

Lawful gambling is permitted within the city provided that it is conducted in accordance with Minn. Stat. §§ 609.75-.763, inclusive, as they may be amended from time to time, and Minn. Stat. §§ 349.11-.23, inclusive, as they may be amended from time to time, and this Article III.

**Sec. 6-66. Application and approval of premises permits.**

- a. Application. The Board will notify the city when a licensed organization applies for a premises permit under Minn. Stat. ch. 349. The organization seeking to obtain a premises permit from the Board must file with the city clerk a duplicate of its licensing application and premises permit application as filed with the state, including all exhibits and documents accompanying the application.
- b. Investigation. The city clerk shall transmit the application to the chief of police or designee for review and recommendation. The chief of police or designee will investigate the matter and make a recommendation to the city council no later than 45 days following the city's receipt of the application materials.
- c. The city clerk will notify the applicant in writing of the date on which the council will consider the recommendation. The council must by resolution approve or disapprove the application within 60 days of the city's receipt of the application. The council shall deny an application for issuance of a premises permit or for reissuance of a premises permit after suspension, revocation or other termination, for any of the following reasons:
  1. The organization has violated any state statute, state rule, or city ordinance relating to gambling within the last three (3) years.
  2. The entity leasing its premises to the applicant organization has violated any state statute, state rule, or city ordinance relating to the operation of the establishment, including, but not limited to, laws relating to alcoholic beverages, gambling, controlled substances, or protection of public safety within the last three (3) years.
  3. Lawful gambling would be conducted at a premises where there is not a written lease between the on-sale establishment and the licensed organization for a term of at least one (1) year.
  4. Lawful gambling would be conducted at more than three (3) premises within the city.
  5. Operation of gambling at the site would be detrimental to health, safety, and welfare of the community.

Otherwise, the council shall pass a resolution approving the application.

**Sec. 6-67. License and permit display.**

All permits issued under state law and local permits issued under this ordinance must be prominently displayed at the premises where gambling is conducted for the duration of the permit.

**Sec. 6-68. Notification of material changes to application.**

A licensed organization holding a state-issued premises permit shall notify the city within ten (10) days in writing whenever any material change is made in the information submitted on the application.

**Sec. 6-69. Local gambling tax**

- a. A local gambling tax of three percent (3%) per year is imposed on the gross receipts of a licensed organization from all lawful gambling less prizes actually paid out by the organization.
- b. The tax shall be paid by the organization on a monthly basis and shall be reported on a copy of the monthly gambling activity summary and tax return filed with the Minnesota Department of Revenue. The report shall be an exact duplicate of the report filed with the Department, without deletions or additions, and must contain the signatures of organization officials as required on the report form.
- c. The tax return and payment of the tax due must be postmarked, or, if hand-delivered, received in the city finance office, on or before the last business day of the month following the month for which the report is made.
- d. An incomplete tax return will not be considered timely filed unless corrected and returned by the due date for filing.
- e. Interest shall be charged at a rate of eight percent (8%) on all overdue taxes owed by the organization under this section.

**Sec. 6-70. Contribution of net profits to fund administered by city.**

Each organization licensed to conduct lawful gambling within the city pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 349.16, as it may be amended from time to time, shall contribute ten percent (10%) of its net profits derived from lawful gambling in the city to a fund administered and regulated by the city without cost to the fund. The city shall disburse the funds for charitable contributions as defined by Minn. Stat. § 349.12, subd. 7a, as it may be amended from time to time. Payment under this section shall be made on the last day of each month. The city's use of such funds shall be determined at the time of adoption of the city's annual budget or when the budget is amended.

**Section 6-71. Designated trade area.**

- a. Each organization licensed to conduct gambling within the city shall expend seventy percent (70%) of its lawful purpose expenditures on lawful purposes conducted within the city's trade area.
- b. This section applies only to lawful purpose expenditures of gross profits derived from gambling conducted at a premises within the city's jurisdiction.

**Section 6-72. Records and reporting.**

- a. Licensed organizations conducting lawful gambling shall file with the city finance director one copy of all records and reports required to be filed with the Board, pursuant to Minn. Stat. ch. 349, as it may be amended from time to time, and rules adopted pursuant thereto, as they may be amended from time to time. The records and reports shall be filed on or before the day they are required to be filed with the Board.
- b. Organizations licensed by the Board shall file a report with the city finance director proving compliance with the trade area spending requirements imposed by section 6-72. The report shall be made on a form prescribed by the city and shall be submitted annually.

### **Section 6-73. Gambling excluded or exempted from state licensing.**

- a. Except as allowed by section 6-64 of this code, an organization that conducts lawful gambling that is exempt or excluded from state licensing requirements under Minn. Stat. § 349.166, as it may be amended from time to time, must comply with the requirements of this section 6-73 and of section 6-74.
- b. An organization that will conduct bingo excluded from state licensing must provide the city clerk with the application required by the state for the conduct of excluded bingo, at least 30 days prior to the first date on which the excluded bingo event will occur.
- c. An organization that will conduct lawful gambling exempted from state licensing must provide the city clerk with the application for exempt permit required by the state, at least 30 days prior to the date of the gambling event.
- d. The city clerk shall provide a copy of the notification or application received pursuant to subdivisions (b), (c) or (d) above to the chief of police for information.

### **Section 6-74. Hours of operation.**

Lawful gambling shall not be conducted between 1 a.m. and 8 a.m. on any day of the week.

### **Section 6-75. Penalty.**

Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance; or Minn. Stat. §§ 609.75-609.763, inclusive, as they may be amended from time to time; or Minn. Stat. §§ 349.11-349.21, as they may be amended from time to time; or any rules promulgated under those sections, as they may be amended from time to time, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for a term not to exceed 90 days, or both, plus in either case the costs of prosecution. In addition, violations involving licensed organizations shall be reported to the Board and recommendation shall be made for suspension, revocation, or cancellation of an organization's license.

### **Section 6-76. SEVERABILITY**

If any provision of this ordinance is found to be invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

### **Sections 6-78 – 6-90. Reserved.**

**Section 3.** Effective date. This ordinance becomes effective immediately.

**Summary for Publication:**

Ordinance 2026-02 amends Chapter 4, Section 4-9-9 to lawful gambling in licensed liquor establishments, and Chapter 6, Article III Lawful Gambling is repealed and replaced to allow premises permit gambling and modification to exempt gambling.



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

# Lawful Gambling

Repealing and Replacing Ordinance

February 4, 2026

[EdinaMN.gov](http://EdinaMN.gov)

# Staff Recommendation

- Repeal and replace Lawful Gambling Ordinance
- Allow 3 Premises Permits initially (to pilot and understand the administrative process and workload)
  - Nonprofit organizations located in Edina
  - 70% of net gambling proceed spent in the trade areas
  - 3% gambling tax to cover the cost of regulating lawful gambling
  - 10% of net profit to a City-administer fund
- Eliminate background checks for exempt lawful gambling and replace with Gambling Board process
- Amend the Liquor Ordinance to allow lawful gambling





## Staff Report

**Date:** February 4, 2026  
**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Sharon Allison, City Clerk  
**Subject:** Lawful Gambling – Opportunities for Organizations to Benefit

### Information/Background:

At the Council's request, staff researched how multiple nonprofit organizations may benefit from lawful gambling and whether a nonprofit could obtain a premises permit at a location where space is leased from the City. This memo summarizes what is allowed under state law, the limits on City authority, and policy options for Council consideration.

### Sharing or Coordinating Lawful Gambling Proceeds

The City cannot provide legal advice to individual organizations regarding how they may share gambling proceeds. However, staff identified several ways that more than one organization could benefit from lawful gambling without increasing the number of gambling locations in the city.

First, state law allows more than one premises permit to be issued for a single location, however, a premises permit cannot be shared. If Council wishes to allow this, the City could amend the ordinance to clarify limits, such as a maximum number of locations citywide, for example 3, and a maximum number of permits per location, for example two. This would allow two organizations to conduct lawful gambling at the same site; however, it is unknown whether liquor establishments or the organizations would want two organizations to compete at the same location.

Second, licensed organizations may contribute gambling proceeds to other charitable organizations, provided the contributions meet lawful purposes under state law. The City's ordinance already requires that 70 percent of expenditures occur within the City's trade area. However, the City cannot require organizations to give to specific recipients and would be relying on voluntary decisions by each organization.

Third, the City currently requires licensed organizations to contribute 10 percent of net profits to a City-administered charitable fund. The City must distribute these funds for lawful charitable purposes. Some, but not all, local nonprofits may qualify to receive distributions from this fund.

Lastly, the Council could increase the number of locations allowed or limit the number of premises permits that the Council would approve for a single organization.



### **Premises Permit at a City-Leased Facility**

A nonprofit could obtain a premises permit at a location where space is leased from the City, provided the lease is amended to allow lawful gambling activities and all state and local requirements are met.

### **BetterTogether Feedback on the Ordinance**

The ordinance was posted on the website Jan. 27-Feb. 3. The webpage had 23 visits, but none provided any feedback.



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

# Lawful Gambling

Repealing and Replacing Ordinance  
January 20, 2026

[EdinaMN.gov](http://EdinaMN.gov)

# Background & Need for Change

- Current ordinance regulates **exempt gambling events only**
- **Does not allow premises permits**
- **June 2025, the Edina Education Fund**



# What Is Being Proposed

- **Repeal and replace** the City's lawful gambling ordinance
- **Amend Chapter 4 Liquor Ordinance**
- These changes would:
  - Allow premises permits.
  - Clarify that lawful gambling may occur in on-sale liquor establishments.
  - Align with the **state-administered lawful gambling framework.**
  - Simplify local administration for exempt gambling.



# Premises Permit Framework

- **City Council approval required**
- **Initial limit:** Three (3) premises permits citywide.
- **Eligibility:** Only nonprofit organizations located within Edina's jurisdiction.
- **Trade Area Requirement:**
  - At least **70% of net gambling proceeds** must be spent within the trade area.
  - Trade areas include Edina and all contiguous cities.



# Financial & Regulatory Requirements

- **Local Gambling Tax:**
  - Up to **3%** of gross receipts minus prizes paid.
  - Cover the cost of regulating lawful gambling.
  - Staff recommend the full 3%.
- **Net Profit Contribution:**
  - **10% of net profit** contributed to a City-administered fund.
  - Use of funds determined by Council
- **Regulatory Oversight:**
  - Gambling Control Board and Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement perform primary oversight.
  - Council approves or denies the **location** by resolution.
  - No separate City application; applicants submit a duplicate of their state application to the City.



# Exempt Gambling Permits - Proposed Changes

- Increase from **2 to 4 per year**.
- Eliminate local application and background checks.
- Rely on the Gambling Control Board's review and City sign-off on the LG220 form.
- If the current process is retained, increase the application fee from **\$15 to \$50**.



# Staff Recommendation

- Repeal and replace Lawful Gambling Ordinance
- Amend the Liquor Ordinance to allow lawful gambling
- Allow 3 Premises Permits
  - Nonprofit organizations located in Edina
  - 70% of net gambling proceed spent in the trade areas
  - 3% gambling tax to cover the cost of regulating lawful gambling
  - 10% of net profit to a City-administer fund
- Increase exempt permits and eliminate the application and background process





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**Item Number:** 9.6

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Action

**Prepared By:** Scott Neal, City Manager, Zoe Johnson, City Management Fellow

**Item Title:** 2026 Legislative Platforms

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**Action Requested:**

Provide consensus through discussion to approve the staff additions to the state platform since the January 20th, 2026 legislative delegation work session. Approve the state and federal 2026 legislative platforms.

**Information/Background:**

Since the January 20th, 2026 legislative delegation work session, staff have added two items to the state legislative platform's Affordable Housing section, titled "Use Pooled Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for Affordable Housing" and "Emergency Rental Assistance Financing". These items were added after hearing Rep. Youakim's remarks during the January 20th, 2026 legislative delegation work session and as part of staff's work for the Immigration Response Task Force created by City Manager Neal, respectively. These new items' titles are highlighted in the attached 2026 City of Edina State Legislative Platform as the first and second items within the Affordable Housing section.

The identification of state and federal legislation that might be changed to better achieve the goals of the City and the broader Edina community is something that occurs each year. In the same vein, as City staff work with colleagues and partners to identify policy changes necessary to achieve those goals, they also work to propose changes to said policy that may be working contrary to City goals — ultimately limiting the livelihood and progress of the broader Edina community. While legislative sessions occur each year, legislative changes can take years to occur. Issues are debated, modified, and could still be unsuccessful — this is why it is crucial to start the conversation early with the understanding that details will be fine-tuned throughout the legislative process.

As the City finalizes the specifics within our 2026 legislative platforms, so do associations such as the Municipal Legislative Commission (MLC), Association of Metropolitan Municipalities (Metro Cities), the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC), and the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA). Oftentimes, Edina's interests align with these associations both by virtue of the City's participation in each association and their guiding purpose. The City's 2026 legislative platforms do not duplicate items found on the MLC, Metro Cities, LMC, or MCPA platforms, but it does assume general alignment with these partner associations.

The two types of items that make up the state legislative platform are priorities and positions. Priorities are issues specific to Edina and do not directly affect other communities; positions are issues affecting cities in general and are not specific to Edina. Anything that was removed from the platform was either approved or addressed by last year's state legislative session, or has been morphed into a new

priority/position.

**Resources/Financial Impacts:**

No fiscal impact to prepare and adopt these legislative platforms. Capacity impact is minimal for staff to update legislative platforms each year.

**Relationship to City Policies/Plans/Budget Pillars:**

The legislative platforms largely relate to city code, the city budget, a large majority of city work plans, the Comprehensive Plan, the Capital Improvement Plan, the Climate Action Plan, the Safe and Equitable Mobility Action Plan, and the Living Streets Plan and Policy.

**Values Impact:**

**Supporting Documentation:**

Documents marked with "Board Portal" do not meet [ADA Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(URL\)](#) and are not included in the public packet. To request a board portal document, please [submit a data request \(URL\)](#).

1. Draft 2026 City of Edina Federal Platform
2. Draft 2026 City of Edina State Platform



## Memo

### Administration

[EdinaMN.gov](http://EdinaMN.gov)

**Date:** January 20, 2026  
**To:** Mayor & City Council  
**From:** Scott Neal, City Manager; Zoe Johnson, City Management Fellow  
**Subject:** 2026 Federal Legislative Platform

#### 1. Affordable Housing

Supplying affordable housing to all Minnesotans is an important investment to make for the state's future. Unfortunately, the funding available falls far short of what is needed. Cities cannot close the housing affordability gap on their own. The City urges Congress to increase the allocation to Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), restore HOME and CDBG funding, and prioritize affordable housing and work with local partners to coordinate federal housing resources. The City urges Congress to increase support for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnership (HOME) program, the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program and the Emergency Food and Shelter program. These programs are the principal source of federal revenue for localities to use in developing and implementing community development solutions, such as affordable housing, that create and sustain healthy, functioning communities. These funds also serve to help prevent homelessness which is far safer for a City and more economical than moving a household out of homelessness.

Additionally, in 2023 the State of Minnesota recognized a "right to heating" in winter to protect the comfort, safety, and well-being of renters and low-income Minnesotans, along with additional tenant protections. The City urges Congress to adopt similar standards nationwide, including rights to both heating and to cooling, along with additional funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Bills such as the Heating and Cooling Relief Act (S.405/H.R.893) not only would allow LIHEAP to assist more households but also reduce both utility bills and building emissions via expanded weatherization programs.

#### 2. Climate Change

The City approved its Climate Action Plan in December 2021, setting a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent by 2030. The plan includes 200 actions to meet our climate action goals, and the City has already started or completed over 30 percent of these critical actions and has benefitted from federal legislation and funding. For example, the City received a \$200,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All program to create a consolidated safe and equitable transportation plan, combining existing pedestrian and bike master plans and new plans, like a roadway safety plan. Goals of this plan will include reductions in vehicle miles traveled and increased multi-modal transit ridership and service. While the City continues to lead local climate change efforts, federal assistance helps us meet our goals more quickly and efficiently, particularly those concerning transportation and the greenhouse gas effects of the transportation industry.

First, we ask for increased investment in high-speed passenger rail in the Midwest. The Twin Cities were prioritized for more frequent service to Chicago, and the City is eager to keep this prioritization, but we also seek high-speed rail connections to reduce short-haul flights in the Midwest. The City applauds the \$500,000 of federal funding allocated to the planning of the Northern Lights Express project and looks forward to continued investment in the Midwest's passenger rail network.



Second, we ask for the reinstatement of federal clean energy tax credits to their original value and expiration dates, as approved in the Inflation Reduction Act. These credits are crucial to helping homeowners, businesses, and government agencies invest in clean energy technologies like solar panels, heat pumps and electric vehicles (EV).

Third, we ask for support for transit system operations, like the Stronger Communities Through Better Transit Act (H.R.7039). Edina seeks to double its transit ridership by 2030, and operations funding can help Metro Transit increase service to suburban communities, increasing access, and increasing ridership opportunities.

Finally, we ask that Congress declare a climate emergency. This recognition would open additional sources of funding and mobilization of resources that would empower federal, state, and local governments to better prepare for and mitigate the consequences of climate change.

### **3. Enable Cities to Protect Residents from Harmful Levels of Aviation Noise**

The City identified aviation noise as a key threat to the quality of life in Edina. The City requests support from Edina's federally elected officials for eliminating Categorical Exclusions (CATEX) when implementing Performance Based Navigation (PBN). The process should ensure that ground impacts and community concerns are incorporated into PBN that will change noise exposure. Regarding measuring noise, Day/Night Noise Level (DNL) is an average and humans perceive noise as individual events, rather than averages, so we believe it is time to investigate alternative metrics.

The City is concerned about the impacts from the increased number and frequency of flights under traditional PBN tracks. There is currently very little information pertaining to the human impact of the concentration of flights associated with PBN procedures. Our residents are exposed to continuous concentrated noise due to our proximity to the airport. Although there may not be an increase in average noise as measured by DNL, there are unknown impacts from the increased number and frequency of flights. Given the age of some Sound Insulation Programs (SIP) in the United States, the increase in traffic density at our nation's airports and improved technologies, the Edina City Council supports the eligibility standards used prior to the September 2012 Program Guidance Letter (PGL-12-09).

The Edina City Council opposes the privatization of Air Traffic Control. We are concerned it may reduce the accountability of the organization to Congress, and that without a mechanism for compelling private companies to meet and discuss community concerns, there will be fewer opportunities for advocacy on noise impacts. The FAA has taken positive steps to improve community engagement, including adopting a Community Involvement Manual and hiring a Community Involvement Manager for Airspace Projects. The Edina City Council believes that this will result in a more efficient and successful implementation of NextGen, and we strongly support these efforts.

### **4. Post Office Preservation**

The Edina Post Office in the 50th & France District, at 3948 Market Street, is housed in a leased facility. The Edina Post Office is important to the Edina, Minneapolis and St. Louis Park residents it serves. We ask your support in keeping a full-service post office in the 50th & France District and to initiate the planning process for a new post office within the next 24 months.

### **5. Protection of Municipal Bonds**

The City's Aaa and AAA credit ratings from Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Services are a source of community pride and represent the financial strength of our city. These ratings create opportunities for the City to invest in our community's future and provide the best value in public services back to our residents. It is the combination of local control and local responsibility that makes municipal bonds such an effective and efficient tool. Any changes to the tax code should recognize the vital role of tax-exempt municipal bonds. The City asks you to oppose any



attempt to make changes to the tax-exempt status that would increase the cost of financing for cities as doing so would impact our operations, our services and, ultimately, our residents.

## **6. Railroad Safety**

The City has one railroad that runs through the center of Edina, with two trains running daily on the tracks, and there are numerous other tracks within a 10-mile radius. The City supports legislation to mitigate negative safety concerns, noise, and environmental impacts of railroads and to increase communications with first responders for municipal emergency response to non-rail incidents and rail incidents. Such legislation includes the Railway Safety Act of 2023 (S.576). These measures are needed as the number and length of trains in the state and metro area are increasing, and as recent derailments, such as the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) train derailment in Raymond, Minnesota, highlight the risk that rail poses to communities. Rail is an essential part of the national economy and reduces impacts on other infrastructure, so it must be maintained and operated safely in communities.

## **7. Public Safety**

The City operates a police department that includes sworn peace officers, a 911 dispatch division and community engagement functions. As with many communities in the Twin Cities, recruitment and retention of police officers, violent crime, and fentanyl overdoses remain enduring issues. The City supports initiatives like Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs and the Safer America Plan. These proactive strategies are making a tangible difference in community safety across the nation, through their focus on neighborhood safety, intervention and support before violent crimes take place, and recruiting and retaining skilled and dedicated police officers. The City urges continued support of programs like these, through the Congressional action laid out in the Safer America Plan.

The City finds that there is a public safety and welfare crisis resulting from gun violence in the City. The City has requested the State of Minnesota to lift broad firearm preemption laws that specifically prohibit local governments from adopting reasonable gun laws tailored to local conditions, and asks the City's federal elected officials support the City in this advocacy to restore local authority to empower cities like Edina to protect residents and reduce gun violence. The State of Minnesota's firearm preemption prevents local elected officials and police chiefs – the officials most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it – from passing common sense public safety measures designed to keep their communities safe.

## **8. Clarity on THC-Infused Products**

With the passage of Minn. Stat. 151.72 in July 2022, products containing THC are permitted for sale. The City seeks clarification on whether retail liquor stores can sell THC-infused beverages for two main purposes. First, without federal passage of the SAFE banking act, cannabis-related legitimate operations cannot generate proceeds from unlawful activity, and banking institutions can be penalized by federal authorities for providing services to a cannabis-related business. Also, current regulation allows retailers like Edina Liquor to accept credit card payments only if the percent of total revenue from THC products is less than 15%.

## **9. Condominium Affordability & Quality**

The City of Edina understands that residents across the nation are struggling to keep up with escalating prices for condominium insurance, association fees, and units themselves. Residents hold great concern over the dilapidated quality of infrastructure within these condominium units as well as the lack of accountability with condominium building owners and property management. The City supports efforts to alleviate these residents' concerns, such as increased mandated transparency measures for condominium building owners and property management to allow residents a greater ability to understand and inquire about further cost increases related to their condominium units.



## City of Edina Contact Information

Scott Neal, City Manager, can be contacted regarding any of the legislative items found on this platform in addition to the staff listed above. Scott Neal can be reached at [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401.

### 1. Affordable Housing

Stephanie Hawkinson, Affordable Housing Development Manager: [SHawkinson@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SHawkinson@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-833-9578

### 2. Climate Change

Marisa Bayer, Sustainability Manager: [MBayer@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:MBayer@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-1621

### 3. Enable Cities to Protect Residents from Harmful Levels of Aviation Noise

Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401

### 4. Post Office Preservation

Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401

### 5. Protection of Municipal Bonds

Pa Thao, Director of Finance: [PTHao@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:PTHao@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0420

### 6. Railroad Safety

Chad Millner, Director of Public Works & City Engineer: [CMillner@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:CMillner@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0318

### 7. Public Safety

Todd Milburn, Chief of Police: [TMilburn@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:TMilburn@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0487

### 8. Clarity on THC-Infused Products

Perry Vetter, Director of Parks & Recreation: [PVetter@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:PVetter@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0430

### 9. Condominium Affordability & Quality

Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401



The CITY of  
**EDINA**

CITY GOALS:  Strong Foundation  Reliable Service  Livable City  Better Together

## Memo

### Administration

[EdinaMN.gov](http://EdinaMN.gov)

**Date:** January 20, 2026  
**To:** Mayor & City Council  
**From:** Scott Neal, City Manager; Zoe Johnson, City Management Fellow  
**Subject:** 2026 State Legislative Platform

### Priorities:

The following six priorities are made up of issues specific to Edina and do not directly affect other communities.

#### **I. Sales Tax Spending Authority Amendment for Regional Recreation and Public Safety**

The City's current sales tax spending limit is \$71 million. The spending limit is a result of two local referendums which approved the local sales tax in 2022 and again in 2023. The total projected revenue from the local sales tax over the approved 19-year time frame at the approved tax rate of 0.5% is \$140 million. The City seeks additional local sales tax spending authority to make capital and infrastructure improvements to its large regionally significant parks and recreation facilities, including Braemar Park, Fred Richards Park, Edina Aquatic Center, Edina Art Center, Edinborough Park, Centennial Lakes Park and capital improvements for the City's public safety facilities. The City's request can be summarized as follows:

- Increase the City's approved spending by \$4 million to cover construction related inflation costs at its two existing local sales tax funded projects at Braemar Arena and Fred Richards Park by amending the scope of the current eligible expense categories: design; architecture; scoping; estimating; engineering; construction; lease payments; HVAC commissioning; payroll and fringe benefit costs for City employees who perform direct work for the project(s); furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) for all elements of the project(s); and communications and community engagement for the project(s); and,
- To authorize the City of Edina to host an additional local sales tax referendum during the 2026 general election to authorize local sales tax funding for the following major capital and infrastructure improvements:
  - New Public Safety Facilities (design and construction): \$25,000,000
  - Edinborough Park (CIP spending): \$14,000,000
  - Centennial Lake Park (CIP spending): \$8,000,000
  - Edina Art Center (tenant improvement costs): \$6,000,000
  - Edina Aquatic Center (CIP spending): \$8,000,000
  - Braemar Golf Course Clubhouse (design): \$4,000,000

Given current rates of sales tax revenue collection, and the previously voter approved spending, there is sufficient revenue expected in the future to support this spending.

I



## 2. Fire Station 3/Municipal Campus Land Dedication

The Vernon Avenue and Highway 100 Interchange Project is nearing completion. The project removes barriers and improves safety for all users with a focus on pedestrians and populations with mobility challenges. The project closed redundant MnDOT ramps creating unused public land that could be used for a much-needed Fire Station 3 and/or a municipal campus including a fire station in northeast Edina. The City is asking that the any surplus MnDOT land created upon completion of the interchange project in the area bordered by Vernon Avenue/West 50th Street, Grange Road, Eden Avenue, and marked Trunk Highway 100 be dedicated for use by the City of Edina as a fire station, a municipal campus, or both effective the day following final enactment.

## 3. Lift Firearm Preemption and Allow Local Regulation

The City of Edina urges the Minnesota Legislature to lift the current preemption on local regulation of firearms. This change is critical to allow cities to address urgent public safety and welfare concerns related to gun violence in their own communities. Edina seeks the authority to regulate specific firearms and firearm modifications that pose an extraordinary risk to public safety – such as semi-automatic military-style assault weapons, ghost guns, large-capacity magazines, and binary triggers. These weapons and modifications are not commonly used for lawful self-defense but have a significantly higher capacity for causing mass injury and death compared to ordinary firearms. Local governments need flexibility to enact reasonable regulations tailored to their community's needs to mitigate the harm caused by these weapons when used for unlawful purposes. Restoring local authority will empower cities like Edina to protect residents and reduce gun violence effectively.

**Commented [ZJ1]:** pierce: I don't like the allowing local regulation piece because of patchwork policies...  
risser: I am concerned if preemption is lifted it will give way for cities to go the other way if there isn't some kind of state-wide floor for firearm policy

## 4. Enabling Social Districts for Vibrant Commercial Corridors

The City of Edina requests special legislation to enable the consideration and potential establishment of one or more Social Districts within its commercial business districts, including the 50th & France business district. As Edina businesses continue to compete with both regional retail hubs and the continued growth of online commerce, it is essential to explore innovative strategies that enhance the vibrancy and economic vitality of our brick-and-mortar commercial districts. Social District legislation would allow for the creation of designated areas where alcoholic beverages can be purchased from licensed establishments and consumed within clearly defined public and private spaces. This may encourage longer visits, increased foot traffic, and stronger community vitality —further distinguishing the business district as a unique destination for residents and visitors alike.

This legislative authority should also allow a Social District within Edina to interact seamlessly with a similar district in a neighboring municipality, such as Minneapolis, for example in commercial districts that span two different municipalities like 50th & France. This cross-jurisdictional flexibility would enable both cities to collaboratively define district boundaries, coordinate implementation, and partner with local business associations to ensure responsible management.

## 5. Sales Tax Exemption for Projects in the Braemar Park Master Plan and Fred Richards Park Master Plan

The City will use new local sales and use tax revenue to make improvements and expansions to Braemar Arena and Braemar Park and Fred Richards Park, as outlined in the Braemar Park Master Plan and Fred Richards Park Master Plan. The City will seek a sales tax exemption for the material and supplies purchased for the construction, reconstruction, upgrade, expansion, or remodeling of City facilities included in the Braemar Park Master Plan and the Fred Richards Park Master Plan.

## 6. Protect Municipal Employees with Enforcement Functions

Many city employees and contractors are required to enforce administrative codes, rules, ordinances, and state laws as part of their job duties. Minnesota law recognizes the need to protect certain employees whose jobs make it more likely



they will be the target of assaults by escalating assault charges from fifth to fourth degree for the assaults of peace officers, firefighters, school officials, and “public employees with mandated duties.” However, employees such as code enforcement officials, utility operators, municipal liquor store clerks and others have similar enforcement functions. The City supports extending the existing protection to all public employees whose jobs require them to enforce administrative codes, rules, ordinances, and state laws as a part of their job because due to the enforcement function of their jobs, these public employees can be and have been subject to verbal assaults, threats, and physical violence. This would make the law more evenly applicable to all employees more likely to become target of assaults.

### Positions:

The following 48 positions represent issues which apply to Edina and other Minnesota cities. These positions are grouped into six categories: General Government (pages 3-7), Municipal Liquor (pages 7-8), Affordable Housing (pages 8-10), Environment and Sustainability (pages 10-13), Transportation (pages 13-16) and Public Safety (page 16).

## I. General Government

### 1. Realign Motor Vehicle Lease Sales Tax Allocation

In 2015, state legislation reallocated \$32 million of the sales tax collected from leased vehicles from the State's general fund, half to Greater Minnesota and half to metro counties through the County State Aid Highway Fund. To balance funding for transit and roads/bridges, the new law excluded Hennepin and Ramsey Counties from receiving their share of funding. Instead, the other five metro counties split the proceeds generated in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

With the elimination of the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) in 2017, all seven metro counties now collect their own local transportation sale tax, but the exemption still blocks Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. The City of Edina advocates for returning to the original intent by eliminating the exemption of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties and distributing the sales tax on lease vehicles, per the county state aid formula, to all metro counties. The City supports re-aligning the distribution because:

- Distributing Hennepin and Ramsey County proceeds to the other five metro counties puts cities in Hennepin County at a disadvantage when it comes to accessing county funds for road and bridge projects.
- This change would provide an estimated \$10.7 million in additional funding to Hennepin County for roads and bridges.

### 2. Increase Purchasing Agency

The City Manager is the chief purchasing agent of statutory Plan B cities. State law requires the City Manager to recommend purchases and contracts and requires additional approval by the City Council. There are only 18 Statutory Plan B Cities in MN.

- In Edina, this approval is obtained through Requests for Purchase on the Consent agenda.
- The \$20,000 statutory threshold has not been raised since 2004. This does not account for standard inflation over the past 20 years.
- The costs of items has significantly increased, most City purchases are well over \$20,000. Allowing the City Manager a higher purchasing threshold can make purchasing more efficient, while still maintaining compliance and oversight of budget.
- Neighboring charter cities with the Council-Manager form of Government, have significantly higher limits (St. Louis Park, Minnetonka, Richfield, Bloomington, Minneapolis, Hopkins) all have \$175,000 thresholds.



- The City of Edina supports a raise in legal maximum to at least \$175,000 (consistent with MN Statute 471.345) with the ability for individual City Councils to set lower thresholds at their discretion.

### 3. Hearing Aid Affordability

Currently, hearing aids are not classified as durable medical equipment (DME) and therefore not covered under many health insurance plans. Without health insurance coverage, many who need hearing aids are unable to get them, as they cost three to six thousand dollars. The City supports programs or policy changes reducing the cost of hearing aids and increasing access to them because:

- Hearing aids are critical devices for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Without health insurance coverage, hearing aids are not affordable for those living on a fixed income. Both Edina seniors on a fixed income and youth who age out of hearing aid support cannot access hearing aids because of cost.
- Cochlear implants, which cost \$80,000 to \$120,000, are typically covered by health insurance while hearing aids are not.

### 4. Allow Restrictions on Possession of Firearms in Municipal Facilities with School-Like Use

The Minnesota Citizens Personal Protection Act, also known as “conceal-and carry,” prohibits guns on most school properties but forbids other local units of government from prohibiting loaded firearms on their properties. The inconsistencies in the law’s treatment of different kinds of properties have caused confusion about how the law applies to multi-use facilities, such as municipal ice arenas used for school-sponsored programs. While various public facilities can restrict firearm possession, including schools, public facilities with a school-like function are not granted this authority. The City has several facilities with school-like usage and a large population of school-aged users. The City supports clarifying the law to allow municipal facilities with school-like usage to restrict the possession of firearms inside their facilities because:

- This would align the law with other facilities that are authorized to restrict possession.
- This would be one step to securing the safety of those who use City facilities for a school-like function.

### 5. Add Gun Safety Protections in Solidarity with the Annunciation Catholic School Community

The Edina City Council calls for stronger protections against gun violence and calls on the State of Minnesota to enact and strengthen state-level protections which include consideration of the following:

- Ensuring universal background checks on all commercial firearm transfers;
- Strengthening Extreme Risk Protection Orders (Red Flag laws) by ensuring timely enforcement;
- Enacting and funding strong safe-storage and child access prevention requirements, paired with statewide public education campaigns;
- Prohibiting the sale and possession of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines;
- Preserving and strengthening Minnesota’s permit-to-purchase and carry licensing system, and opposing permitless carry;
- Banning ghost guns, 3D-printed firearms, bump stocks, and conversion devices;
- Expanding funding for community violence intervention programs and hospital-based intervention models; and



- Fully funding school and youth mental health services so that trauma does not define our children's futures.

## 6. Remove Language in the State Constitution Allowing for Enslavement of Incarcerated People

The [Minnesota Constitution](#) states that "There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the state otherwise than as punishment for a crime of which the party has been convicted." The City urges removal of this language because:

- This is immoral and out of step with Minnesota values. As a public entity, it's incumbent on public officials to hold the state accountable to remove this language and its consequences.
- There is recent precedent for such an action, with Colorado, Nebraska, Utah, Alabama, Oregon, Tennessee, and Vermont striking similar language from their constitutions.

## 7. End Forced Labor in Minnesota Correctional Institutions

The City of Edina supports efforts at the Minnesota Legislature to end forced labor in correctional institutions by reclassifying incarcerated individuals as workers or employees with the right to fair employment under HF3335 and SF3536. These measures would establish minimum wage standards for participants in the Institution Community Work Crew (ICWC) program through the Minnesota Department of Corrections, whose labor directly benefits local communities, including Edina. Supporting fair and equitable compensation aligns with the City's values, promotes workforce skill development, and contributes to successful community reintegration.

- ICWC contract costs are estimated to increase with an established minimum wage, if the same number of hours of crew work is maintained. The City of Edina is contracted for two crews of 10 workers each who complete four 10-hour days of work.
- Without additional funding to support the ICWC program in Edina, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Facilities projects and services could be impacted.
- In Edina, ICWC workers learn new job skills through serving the community through high-volume buckthorn and tree removals, installing and removing the sports dome, horticultural maintenance, cleaning of the ice arena, and other tasks during spring and fall transitions.
- The ICWC program is part of the Department of Corrections (DOC) work release program, intended to be a transition to employment and stable residency in the community. The minimum wage increase is expected to ease the workers' transition back into the community to assist with housing, family, restitution, and other living costs.

## 8. Empower Unbanked Minnesotans to Participate in the Local Economy

The City of Edina would support legislation that requires certain businesses, such as food stores, to accept cash payments, similar to bill SF4419 introduced in the 93<sup>rd</sup> legislative session. With the increase in businesses refusing to accept cash for payment in recent years, more unbanked Minnesotans are prevented from participating in the local economy or purchasing necessities such as groceries and hygiene products.



## 9. Data Practices and Personal Information

The purpose of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act (MGDPA) is to provide open and transparent information to the public, while protecting personal information from indiscriminate disclosure. The City supports mechanisms to define and regulate reasonable data requests, and charges that better reflect the actual costs of responding to data requests due to increases in data requests and increased staff time required for repetitive, broad and far-reaching requests.

- Cities are experiencing increases in repetitive, overly broad, and far-reaching data requests.
- These requests require significant staff time to locate government records, redact private data or data unrelated to the request, and assemble documents to be provided to comply with requirements to provide access to public government data.

## 10. Election Administration Support

The City supports greater resources to assist in various aspects of election administration in local governments.

- Supporting accessibility to voters who face barriers to voting.
- Supporting technical/administrative improvements – some changes to timeline for campaign finance and procedure changes to the permanent absentee voting list.
- Modernizing election judge responsibilities – allowing staff to perform signature matches for absentee ballots, language about emergency appointment of election judges for healthcare facilities.
- Supporting RCV standards and equipment.
- Supporting funding for elections through reimbursements from the state.
- Supporting policies that protect and strengthen the security and safety of elections.

## 11. Expansion for Collection of Park Dedication and Parks Dedication Fees

The City of Edina supports an expansion to cities' abilities to collect park dedication fees related to the creation of new housing units. The existing city authority should be preserved by the legislature to maintain an ability to require parkland dedication and park dedication fees. The City supports an amendment to Minnesota statute 462.358 to allow all cities the option to require a reasonable portion of land or park dedication fee on new housing units and new commercial and industrial development without the requirement that land be subdivided.

## 12. Change Group Home Regulation

Licensed residential facilities do not have any distance separation requirements in single-family residential use zones in Edina. Minn. Stat. 245A.11 allows distance requirements of 1,320 feet between licensed residential facilities but limits the scope inequitably to cities in the first class. The City supports licensed residential facility use in the City and urges this distance separation requirements be applied fairly to all cities because:

- Grouping multiple facilities on the same block in a single-family residential neighborhood creates substantial challenges to the neighborhood and reduces the community experience of individuals in the facilities.
- Individuals no longer reap the benefit of enjoying a residential setting with a diversity of households. When entire blocks are acquired for licensed residential facilities, the setting is more similar to a large institutional campus.
- Neighborhoods experience an increase in traffic, parking needs, deliveries, and other activities compounded by numerous facilities on the same block.



- Grouping multiple facilities effectively turns a residential area into a commercial area.

## 2. Municipal Liquor

The City has operated a municipal liquor store since it was established by local referendum in 1948. The liquor operation's profits assist in funding Edina's recreational facilities, including the ice arena, art center and aquatic center, allowing the City to reduce user fees and allow greater access. The City's recreation programs serve children and families from all over the metro area, not just Edina. Continual support of liquor stores and their ability to generate profit allows municipal liquor stores to benefit the community and region through local programs and amenities.

### 1. Reinforce the Open Wholesaling Systems through Legislation

In 2021, Miami-based Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits filed a lawsuit against the State of Minnesota seeking elimination of a Minnesota law called the Coleman Act, which contains the open wholesaling system of spirits distribution. Open wholesaling of spirits requires that all spirit brands (with some exceptions) be available for sale to all licensed Minnesota wholesalers. This encourages healthy competition among wholesalers, benefiting both sellers and customers. If Southern Glazer's lawsuit is successful, more than half of the spirit brands in Minnesota may become exclusive with Southern Glazer's. The City opposes this lawsuit and supports an amendment of the Coleman Act to reinforce a system of open wholesaling because without protection for open wholesaling:

- Wholesale prices will increase.
- Service levels on certain brands will decrease.
- Purchase and delivery schedules will be reduced.
- Sale margins will be compressed.

### 2. Protect Customer Data

As a municipal operation, municipal liquor stores may be subject to data practices requests. The City supports protections for customer data because:

- Customer data subject to request could include purchase history and personal identifying information.
- The threat of data requests erodes trust with the customer.
- It may put municipal liquor stores at a competitive disadvantage.
- The City's municipal liquor operation discontinued its customer rewards program, because without clarity of what information is subject to a data request, the City would not hold personally identifying information and purchase history that could be subject to a data request.

### 3. Clarity on THC-Infused Products

With the passage of Minn. Stat. 151.72 in July 2022, products containing THC are permitted for sale. The City seeks clarification on whether retail liquor stores can sell THC-infused beverages because:

- Without federal passage of the SAFE banking act, cannabis-related legitimate operations cannot generate proceeds from unlawful activity, and banking institutions can be penalized by federal authorities for providing services to a cannabis-related business.
- Current regulation allows retailers like Edina Liquor to accept credit card payments only if the percentage of total revenue from THC products is less than 15%.



#### 4. Maintain Constraints on Off-Sale Liquor

Currently, grocery and convenience stores can sell 3.2% alcohol, while all other alcohol products are sold at liquor stores. Some grocery stores opt to apply for an off-sale liquor license and can sell beer, wine and liquor at the store, with some adjustments, including a separate entrance. The City of Edina supports maintaining the constraints on off-sale liquor because:

- The constraints allow for smaller private and municipal liquor stores to compete on an even playing field.

Claims that the off-sale liquor license process inhibits growth are rebutted by several grocery stores opting for some locations applying for the off-sale liquor license.

### 3. Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing includes two focuses – regulatory tools for affordable housing and protecting low- and moderate-income tenants.

#### 1. Use Pooled Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for Affordable Housing

Currently, state statute allows for the pooling of TIF to be utilized for affordable housing within the defined redevelopment area of the city. However, the pooled TIF must be maintained in a separate fund with ongoing annual reporting requirements. The City supports legislation allowing the City to deposit pooled TIF for affordable housing in Edina's Affordable Housing Trust Fund, because:

- It would allow for great flexibility in the use of the pooled TIF for qualified costs to address the affordable housing needs within each community including facilitating the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing.
- It would alleviate the administrative burden of annual reporting.
- Similar special legislation had been approved for Minnetonka, Richfield and St. Louis Park.

#### 2. Emergency Rental Assistance Financing

The City is concerned that the federal immigration enforcement activity in Minnesota has caused many people to shelter in place for fear of being detained. This is causing many Minnesota residents, including residents of Edina, to miss work – putting their ability to pay rent at risk. During the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately \$1 million in CARES and ARPA funding allowed the City of Edina to support Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People (VEAP) in providing emergency rental assistance while Edina residents sheltered in place. Once return to work was possible, our financial support decreased accordingly. The City supports state funding allocated to cities and counties to fund agencies that provide emergency rental assistance, because:

- Due to severe cuts in funding from the federal government and Hennepin County, the Edina HRA awarded \$200,000 to VEAP for emergency rental assistance out of the City's LAHA allocation in August 2025. Staff is concerned this funding will dry up quickly given the reality of fear instilled in Minnesota residents who are most vulnerable.
- Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) reported on January 26, 2026 that calls for rental assistance are flooding in as immigrant families are facing eviction; 211 calls requesting rental assistance more than tripled in mid-January compared to the weekly average the previous quarter, according to Greater Twin Cities United Way, who



operates the phone line. MPR says it's a catch-22: do residents leave the home and risk being detained or hurt, or miss paychecks to stay home and risk losing protection and that feeling of safety?

### 3. Reduce the Tax Rate on Land Trust Properties to Align with the 4d Property Tax Classification

Previous legislative sessions made changes to the tax classification of Community Land Trust properties by changing the tax classification from 1a – Residential Homestead classification, from an up to 1.25% rate to a new 4d(2) Homestead Community Land Trust at 0.75%. The City supports a change to align with the 4d(1) property tax classification, which is applied to low-income rental properties at up to a 0.25% rate because:

- Homeowners lease, and do not own, the land from the Land Trust.
- The property is required to be affordable as memorialized through the ground lease.
- The Land Trust is designed to create affordable home ownership opportunities, but requiring the homeowner to pay property taxes on the value of the house and the land at a higher rate makes homes less affordable.
- Due to both leasing the land and the requirement that it stay affordable, a reduced 4d(1) is a more appropriate tax classification than 1a or 4d(2).
- Edina has 30 land trust residential properties, with property values in the city rapidly increasing. High property values and corresponding taxes impact the ability of land trust homeowners to remain in their home.

### 4. Protection of and Taxation for Housing Purchased by Corporations for Renting

The City supports legislation that authorizes a tax on the sale of these properties to corporations and protections prohibiting the conversion of single-family residences into rental properties by developers and corporations. The City supports bills introduced in the 92<sup>nd</sup> legislature: SF 3147, imposing the tax, and SF 4313, prohibiting the conversion, because:

- The City and surrounding communities have seen an increase in the number of residences converted from single family homes owned by the residents to rental properties.
- Such conversion negatively impacts ownership opportunities for residents.

### 5. Support for “Missing Middle” Legislation with Local Controls

While the “missing middle” housing bill in the 93<sup>rd</sup> Legislature (HF4009/SF3964) was tabled, the City would look favorably on legislation that similarly encourages and incentivizes “missing middle” housing and strategic land use adjustments, provided it has more flexibility for local control options. The City supports strategic gentle density because:

- The City's Climate Action Plan has goals for reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) 7 percent and doubling public transit commuter ridership by 2030, both of which are only possible in a more walkable, bikeable, and transit-friendly Edina.
- Diversifying housing stock by providing options such as accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and duplexes allows communities like Edina to maintain their suburban character while allowing more residents to age in place, downsize, purchase starter homes, raise their families where they themselves grew up, and more while remaining affordable.

Increasing the City's population broadens the tax base, keeping individual household taxes low while maintaining high levels of municipal services.



## 6. Promote Owner-Occupied Housing

The City supports opportunities that promote affordable home ownership for residents, which includes the modification or removal of regulations that limit residents' potential for affordable home ownership, for example, Minnesota's I-2-10 Warranty.

## 4. Environment & Sustainability

Environment & Sustainability has five thematic focuses – energy management and environment, right to repair, sustainable transportation, local environmental public health programs and water resource management.

### 1. Establish Building Performance Standards

Large commercial buildings are a significant contributor to Minnesota's and Edina's greenhouse gas emissions. Building energy benchmarking is already in use, requiring building owners to report energy use but includes no requirement for improving their building's energy efficiency. The City supports establishing building performance standards that creates greenhouse gas emission reduction and energy performance targets, a timeline to meet them, and financial resources to help building owners comply.

### 2. Establish a Right to Cooling Standard for Minnesotans

Minnesota has an "Extreme Heat Law" to prevent utility disconnection during extreme heat conditions. To expand protections against the negative effects of extreme heat, the City of Edina supports establishing a "right to cooling" standard, similar to the "right to heating" standard adopted in 2023, to ensure renters have the ability to cool their home throughout the summer beyond a National Weather Service alert for excessive heat. This right to cooling should be coupled with increased resources for the Energy Assistance Program (EAP) that provides utility bill relief and Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) that supports air sealing and insulation upgrades. Resources should include the ability to accept applications year-round and without a cap on annual service recipients. The City supports this because:

- Minnesota is warming rapidly.
- Excessive heat has well-documented health consequences, including serious illness and death.
- Renters require additional protections to ensure landlords provide a safe and functional home.

### 3. Allow Portable ("Balcony") Solar Systems

Renewable electricity helps Minnesotans reduce their carbon footprint, save money on energy bills, and increase their building's resiliency. Portable solar systems, often referred to as "balcony solar" are portable, small scale solar kits that are plug-in ready and increase solar access for residents. The City supports changes to building code, solar and interconnection permitting, and other regulations to allow the use of these systems because:

- Renters cannot leverage renewable electricity without landlord investment and approval.
- Installing solar panels is a high up-front cost and these kits are more affordable and accessible.
- Allowing for balcony solar increases consumer choice at a time when energy prices are rising.

### 4. Recommit Funding for Crucial Climate Action Programs

State appropriations from the 2023 legislative session for several critical climate programs and incentives, like the electric vehicle rebates, Solar on Public Buildings Program, Implementation Grants for Stormwater & Community Resilience, multiple MPCA-administered climate planning grants, and more, have expired. These programs provide direct



support to Minnesota homeowners, renters, businesses, and nonprofit organizations looking to invest in their homes and buildings. We know cost is one of the largest barriers to climate action and the City supports continued funding for these programs and others that allow for immediate project implementation. Without these crucial programs, the City of Edina would not have been able to pursue the following projects that are essential to adapting our community's infrastructure to a changing climate:

- With \$50,000 from a [Local Climate Action Grant](#), Edina will be the first municipality in Minnesota to use B100 biofuel for our heavy-duty vehicles instead of petroleum diesel. This will reduce our snowplow and dump trucks' emissions by up to 90 percent while supporting Minnesota soy farmers.
- A \$1.1 million [Implementation Grant for Stormwater Resilience](#) is funding a new lift station and adaptive level control system at Edina's York Avenue Pond. By increasing the pond's stormwater storage capacity and increasing the pumping rate, this project will protect 355 units of housing from increased flood risk due to climate change and reduce downstream sediment pollution to Nine Mile Creek and the Mississippi River.
- As part of the new Fred Richards Park, the City received a \$500,000 [Implementation Grant for Community Resilience](#) to construct artificial shade structures in community gathering spaces. With Minnesota's summers getting increasingly hotter, these shade structures will alleviate the lack of accessible shade areas and provide immediate hot weather relief for one of Edina's densest and fastest-growing neighborhoods.

#### 5. Increase Funding for the State E-bike Rebate Program

The State allocated \$2 million for a statewide e-bike rebate program in 2024 and 2025. The program had high demand from Minnesotans with approximately 1,300 vouchers awarded in 2024 and an expected 2,700-2,800 in 2025. The City supports a new allocation for funding because:

- 2024 and 2025 program participation demonstrated a high demand for assistance.
- With new 2025 program requirements, more low-income residents will be able to access climate-friendly transportation.
- E-bikes are associated with vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reductions that meet our State, County and city climate goals, plus e-bike users see immediate positive health benefits and increased mobility.

#### 6. Establish State Funding to Support Expanded Carshare Networks in the Twin Cities and Minnesota

Xcel Energy pulled private funding from HOURCAR in 2023, the nonprofit electric carshare service in Minneapolis and Saint Paul. The City supports an expanded network and has studied resident support via a partnership with the University of Minnesota's [Resilient Communities Project](#) in 2022-23. The City supports this because:

- Carshares are a viable alternative to owning a personal vehicle.
- Carshares have a demonstrated history of reducing vehicle miles traveled.

#### 7. Allocate 100% of State Revenue from the Solid Waste Management Tax (SCORE) to County Waste Management Activities

Currently, the City is awarded a portion of the SCORE funds annually for residential recycling, residential organics recycling and participation in both at the multi-family building level. The City strives to spend 100% of the funds on allowable purposes. The City supports continued SCORE funding because:



- The funds advance waste reduction, reuse, recycling and organics programs to meet city, county and state recycling goals.
- SCORE funding allows the City to conduct critical outreach.

#### 8. Fund Expanded Infrastructure at the Local Level for the Creation of Compost Processing Sites and Anaerobic Digesters

The City supports additional funding for counties creating compost processing sites and anaerobic digesters because:

- Landfilling all waste in Hennepin County and metropolitan area is no longer a viable option.
- Compost processing sites and anaerobic digesters provide more options for waste haulers.

#### 9. Develop and Fund Zero-Waste Initiatives

Zero-waste initiatives manage all discarded materials to their highest and best use according to the waste management hierarchy set forth in the Waste Management Act. The City supports the development of zero-waste initiatives because:

- They will aid local governments reaching recycling and composting goals.
- The City's waste reduction goals mirror those set by the state, county and Edina's climate action plans.

#### 10. Expand Right to Repair Law

The Digital Fair Repair Act that went into effect on July 1, 2024, is instrumental to reducing waste and encouraging reuse in Minnesota by furthering the life of consumer products. To further the success of the new law, the right to repair measures should be expanded to include previously excluded equipment such as farm equipment and wheelchairs (similar to Colorado's law) and vehicles (such as in Massachusetts). Expanding on the right-to-repair to include more than just electronics would improve this new law to be even more equitable for a wider range of Minnesotans.

#### 11. Continue Support for Local Environmental Health Regulatory Programs

Currently, the State delegates authority to operate food, pool and lodging establishment regulatory programs to cities and counties. The City supports continuing local operation of these public health services and programs, because it allows cities to provide services to meet local needs.

#### 12. Support Funding Research, Training, and Legislation for Applicators of Chloride-Containing De-icing Chemicals

Salt is a pollutant and causes damage to infrastructure and the environment. Private contractors tend to over-apply salt on parking lots and sidewalks, often because they are afraid of "slip-and-fall" lawsuits. The City supports state funding for research and training for public and private applicators of chloride-containing de-icing chemicals, and legislation to address liability concerns of private de-icing salt applicators. Waterbodies throughout the state, including within and downstream of Edina, fail to meet the water quality standards for chloride (salt) established by the state and so have been added to the federal register of impaired waters as required by the Clean Water Act.

#### 13. Support Truth in Labeling for Chloride-Containing De-icing Chemicals

Truth in labeling can help consumers by providing access to accurate and comprehensive information regarding the composition, environmental impact, risks to infrastructure damage, and exposure risk to pets. Current labeling practices



falsely claim or imply chloride containing products are environmentally safe and/or pet safe. Truth labeling would empower individuals to select the appropriate material for the job and reduce overapplication.

#### 14. Support Reduction of Chloride Pollution from Wastewater Effluent

Chloride pollution in wastewater effluent comes primarily from water softening processes. Reducing chloride in wastewater effluent is important for meeting clean water goals in downstream waterbodies. Wastewater generated locally is treated at the regional wastewater treatment plant before discharging to the Mississippi River. Reducing chloride pollution in wastewater will benefit downstream aquatic ecosystems, protect drinking water sources, and extend the lifespan of water infrastructure.

#### 15. Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Municipal Grant Program

Inflow and infiltration (I/I) describe the ways that groundwater and stormwater make its way into sanitary sewer pipes and gets treated, unnecessarily, at regional wastewater plants. The Metropolitan Council identifies cities contributing excessive I/I into the regional wastewater system and charges the city for the excess. The City supports state financial assistance to cities for metro area I/I mitigation, such as the Municipal State Bond Grant Program because:

- I/I mitigation supports efficient use of the regional system for waste treatment.
- I/I mitigation slows the need for capacity upgrades.

### 5. Transportation

#### 1. Continue and Increase Municipal State Aid (MSA) Funding

The City has 40.85 miles of roads designated as MSA. This state funding is vital to maintain these high-quality connections. The City asks for continued support of municipal state aid funding because:

- The state aid road system was developed to provide vital, high-quality connections necessary for the overall state highway network to work well.
- The roads that are on the state aid system typically carry heavier traffic volumes, connect major points of interest and provide an integrated and coordinated road system.

#### 2. Municipal State Aid (MSA) Cost Participation

The City supports malleability in, or exemption from, cost participation policies, especially for cities with a disproportionate amount of state or county highways within and encircling their local boundaries. Special or additional funding from the state legislative for cities that have these burdens of additional cost participation in projects involving state and county roads including the placement of underground utilities due to those projects should be supported.

#### 3. Support Local Design Control on Municipal State Aid (MSA) Roads

As a condition of receiving state funding for Municipal State Aid roads, agencies are required to follow prescriptive design standards for roadway widths, lane configurations, and design speeds. These rules, intended to support uniformity and prioritize motor vehicle travel, often make it difficult for cities to create safe, multi-modal neighborhood-oriented corridors. The City supports legislation to grant local design control to cities to implement alternative design approaches that promote safety and mobility for all modes.



#### 4. Increase Local Bridge Replacement Program (LBRP) Funding

The Local Bridge Replacement Program provides local agencies funding for the reconstruction, rehabilitation or removal of bridges or structures. The program is financed by the passage of specific legislation allocating general obligation state bond funds but regularly does not receive enough funding. The City supports funding dedicated to the Local Bridge Replacement Program to provide safe bridges because the City has 27 local bridges.

#### 5. Support the Highway Justice Act

The City is surrounded and bisected by several highways, including State Highway 62, State Highway 100, US Highway 169 and Interstate 494. While these roadways help connect the City to regional destinations, they also contribute to local air pollution, increased traffic on local frontage roads and create barriers between neighborhoods. The City asks for support of the Highway Justice Act, which would help create a transportation system that strengthens our communities by requiring meaningful community engagement, protecting environmental justice communities, and funding multimodal transportation solutions along trunk highway corridors.

#### 6. Expansion of Public Transportation Frequency and Reach

Edina, like much of the Metro area, continues to experience a persistent reduction in transit service frequency and reach as a result of pandemic-era service reductions and workforce shortages. The City supports additional funding to return transit service to pre-pandemic levels, support operator hiring initiatives, and develop a connecting bus study for the METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT) because:

- The City's transit ridership prior to the pandemic was about half the average rate of Hennepin County.
- Adequate public transit offerings are essential to doubling public transit ridership to seven percent by 2030 to reach our Climate Action Plan goals.
- Transit service supports many community and regional goals, including improving mobility, relieving traffic congestion, reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promoting sustainable development and growth.

#### 7. Increase Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure Funding to Reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled

Transportation emissions account for 40% of Edina's baseline greenhouse gas emissions and are projected to become the leading emissions source in Edina as the energy sector decarbonizes. The City supports funding to provide pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure to decrease the use of single-occupancy vehicles and their associated negative impacts on air quality, traffic congestion and quality of life because:

- Total vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in Edina in 2023 was more than 537 million miles, an increase from previous years and reaching pre-pandemic levels.
- Edina's Climate Action Plan, Hennepin County's Climate Action Plan and Minnesota's Climate Action Framework all identify the need to reduce VMT to meet climate goals.
- Decreasing commuters driving alone by six percent to match the county-wide average would decrease VMT by up to 10 million miles.

#### 8. Allow Biofuel Blends up to 100% as part of State Biodiesel Content Mandate

Current State statute mandates a 20% biofuel blend for summer months. Growing technology and increased availability of higher blend biofuels on the market make updating Statute a benefit for both heavy-duty fleet operators and Minnesotan farmers and biofuel production facilities. The City supports updates to statute and fire code to make biofuel blends up to B100 an allowable use because:



- State of Minnesota and City of Edina have specific climate action goals to reduce tailpipe emissions from medium- and heavy-duty fleet vehicles; and electrification of these fleet vehicles is cost-prohibitive and, in some cases, negatively affects service levels.
- Biofuel is a cost-effective, market-ready solution to fleet decarbonization.
- Biofuel consumption directly supports Minnesota farmers and agriculture.
- Biofuel blends, specifically B100, are safer to dispense compared to traditional petroleum diesel fuel.

## 9. Exempt Government Agencies from New Public EV Charging Licensing Requirements

As an outcome from the 2025 legislative 1st special session, several amendments were enacted that affect electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE):

1. Chapter 296A (Tax on Petroleum and Other Fuels) section 051 now requires a Public Charging Operator's License for electric vehicle chargers;
2. Chapter 239.90 (Weights and Measures) now requires that electric vehicle charging station owners pay a \$100 annual inspection fee per port, as well as instituting requirements for method of sale, labeling, and advertising for retail EVSE; and
3. Chapter 296A section 075 now requires a \$0.05 per kilowatt-hour of electricity tax for all public charging stations with a capacity of more than 50 kilowatts that charge a fee for use.

The City of Edina supports consistency in the method of sale, labeling, and advertising in support of consumers who utilize the State of Minnesota's growing public charging network. However, the City opposes the requirement for a public charging operator's license and the new annual \$100 inspection fee per port for retail EVSE.

- A license is not warranted since any life safety concerns posed by electricity delivered via vehicle charging would be addressed at the point of installation and code compliance inspection. In addition, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory oversight of investor and cooperative electric utilities, ensuring electricity is delivered in a safe, cost-effective manner.
- The narrow definition of "public charging station" within the statute limits this license requirement to charging stations that are 1) located at a for-profit business and 2) require a charge (fee) for a customer to use—meaning that any chargers located on tax-exempt parcels or offered for free are exempt from the operator's license, posing an inconsistency that clouds the purpose of the statute. Additionally, chargers that are free to use for the first hour or longer are in a legal gray area.
- "Retail EVSE" is not defined in statute, creating additional confusion of what stations would be required to pay an inspection fee. Assuming EVSE owned by government agencies, multi-family properties, and other private entities that charge for the stations use would be covered, the City of Edina would assume a new \$2,400 annual cost burden to operate its stations.
- Many public EV charging stations are connected to a managed network, which automatically notifies operators of outages, errors, or potential damage at the port. Additional regulation of the station ports itself is not needed.
- State of Minnesota and City of Edina have specific climate action goals to increase access to EV chargers through public investment in EV chargers. Increasing the cost and administrative commitment for installing and owning these stations through fees and licensing will reduce the number of publicly available stations, slowing adoption of electric vehicles at a time in which the state and most cities are already not on track to reach their climate goals.



While the City of Edina does not oppose the idea of a tax on public fast chargers to fund the Highway User Tax Distribution Fund, we would appreciate assurance that those chargers will have a sales and use tax exemption for the electricity and that this is communicated to the charging networks that work with EVSE owners to collect and remit sales taxes annually.

## 5. Public Safety

While this section appears to only include Fire and EMS positions, the City is aligned with the [MCPA's 2026 legislative agenda](#) and supports their focuses on extending POST training fund reimbursement to agencies, recruitment and retention, stiffer penalties for auto theft and fleeing, and other positions that advocate for the highest quality of police services and leadership to Minnesota residents.

### 1. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Local Control

In February 2022, the Office of the Legislative Auditor (OLA) released a report that found serious deficiencies with both the management of the Emergency Medical Service Regulatory Board and the current ambulance service license process. During the 2023 legislative session, the Minnesota Fire Association Coalition introduced legislation, HF2736 and SF2691, to implement the recommendations of the OLA relating to the primary service areas. The City supports this legislation because:

- Local governments should be able to set standards for EMS service in their communities.
- Local governments should have the authority to find an EMS provider than can meet local standards.

### 2. Residential Fire Sprinklers

There are few statutory requirements for residential fire sprinklers. The City opposes efforts to statutorily limit the use of residential fire sprinklers and supports the inclusion of professionals and industry experts in the creating or writing of any code parameters, particularly the installation of fire suppression systems in residential building code, because:

- Sprinklers protect occupants, firefighters and property from fires.
- Recent Minnesota studies show the cost of installing residential fire sprinkler systems averages \$1.15 per sprinklered square foot, or approximately one percent of new home construction.



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CITY GOALS:



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Reliable  
Service



Usable  
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## City of Edina Contact Information

### Priorities

City Manager, Scott Neal, can be contacted regarding any of the legislative priorities, in addition to the staff below. Scott can be reached at [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401.

1. Local Sales Tax Spending Authority Amendment
  - a. Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401
2. Fire Station 3/Municipal Campus Land Dedication
  - a. Chad Millner, Director of Public Works and City Engineer: [CMillner@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:CMillner@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0318
3. Lift Firearm Preemption and Allow Local Regulation
  - a. Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401
4. Enabling Social Districts for Vibrant Commercial Corridors
  - a. Bill Neuendorf, Economic Development Manager: [BNeuendorf@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:BNeuendorf@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0407
5. Sales Tax Exemption for Projects in the Braemar Park Master Plan and Fred Richards Park Master Plan
  - a. Perry Vetter, Director of Parks & Recreation: [PVetter@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:PVetter@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0430
6. Protect Municipal Employees with Enforcement Functions
  - a. Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401

### Positions

#### General Government

I-11: Scott Neal, City Manager: [SNeal@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SNeal@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0401

I2: Cary Teague, Director of Community Development: [CTeague@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:CTeague@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0460

#### Municipal Liquor

I-4: Michael McBride, Liquor Operations General Manager: [MMcBride@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:MMcBride@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-903-5748

#### Affordable Housing

I-6: Stephanie Hawkinson, Affordable Housing Manager: [SHawkinson@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:SHawkinson@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-833-9578

#### Environment & Sustainability

I-6: Marisa Bayer, Sustainability Manager: [MBayer@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:MBayer@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-1621

7-10: Twila Singh, Organics Coordinator: [TSingh@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:TSingh@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-1657

I1: Jeff Brown, Public Health Manager: [JBrown@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:JBrown@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0466

I2-I4: Jessica VanderWerff Wilson, Water Resources Manager: [JWilson@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:JWilson@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0445

I5: Ross Bintner, Engineering Services Manager: [RBintner@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:RBintner@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-903-5713



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## Transportation

1-4: Chad Millner, Director of Public Works & City Engineer: [CMillner@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:CMillner@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0318

5-7: Andrew Scipioni, Transportation Planner: [AScipioni@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:AScipioni@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0440

8-9: Marisa Bayer, Sustainability Manager: [MBayer@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:MBayer@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-1621

## Public Safety

1-2: Andrew Slama, Fire Chief: [ASlama@EdinaMN.gov](mailto:ASlama@EdinaMN.gov) or 952-826-0332



**Whereas** the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and its subsidiary and partner agencies, have initiated unprecedented immigration enforcement operations in the City of Edina and the State of Minnesota which have created unique public safety concerns for residents, business owners and their employees, patrons, and visitors, tourists, and City staff; and

**Whereas** the immigration operations are of a scale and approach that are drastically different from the historical operations of the local office of DHS in Minnesota, including use of many officers who have little to no ties to or understanding of communities and cultures in Edina and Minnesota; and

**Whereas** federal immigration operations in Edina have heightened the public's concern as to the safety and welfare of residents, visitors, and City staff interacting with federal immigration officials; and

**Whereas** these operations have increased the risk of physical injury to City residents, visitors, staff, and local and state law enforcement officers; and

**Whereas** these operations are creating a climate of fear in our community that is counterproductive to legitimate law enforcement goals of protecting public safety and welfare, and undermining the community's trust in policing; and

**Whereas** in December 2025 and January 2026, the City Council released statements affirming their commitment to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the City's core values of dignity, fairness, and respect for all individuals in response to the fear and uncertainty expressed by residents regarding federal immigration enforcement activity; and

**Whereas** Edina values its partnership with state and federal law enforcement agencies in activities designed to prevent and respond to criminal activity within the community and has urged federal leaders to conduct enforcement activities in a manner that fully respects constitutional rights, prioritizes human dignity, and protects public safety; and

**Whereas** the Edina Police Department always seeks to collaborate with residents and the community to ensure people are treated with courtesy, dignity, respect, and understanding and that their constitutional rights are both recognized and respected; and

**Whereas** the City Council desires to acknowledge these public safety and welfare concerns and institute policies that reassure the public of the City's commitment to serving, protecting, and valuing all individuals, regardless of a person's immigration status or national origin.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the City of Edina formally affirms the following policy positions amidst federal immigration enforcement operations conducted within the City of Edina:

1. Edina objects to any immigration enforcement operations that violate the constitutional rights of people and to the use of excessive physical force in enforcement operations.
2. The City only maintains authority to enforce state and local laws in a nondiscriminatory manner and directs the Police Department to continue protecting the safety of the public during immigration enforcement operations and peaceful protests of the same. The City does not participate in immigration enforcement operations or enforce federal immigration law.
3. Edina is committed to the equal treatment of all its residents and visitors in the provision of City resources and services, regardless of immigration status or national origin.
4. Edina is committed to stewarding its resources for the benefit of the public in accordance with state public purpose expenditures law. As such, no City employee or public official may use or permit the use of City resources, including City Property, for the enforcement of federal immigration laws.
5. Nothing in this policy statement limits Edina continued partnership with state and federal law enforcement agencies in activities designed to prevent and respond to criminal activity within the community.

Date: February 4, 2026.



**Resolution 2026-07: Urging the State of Minnesota to  
swiftly approve Emergency Rental Assistance funding in  
response to Operation Metro Surge**

**Whereas**, Operation Metro Surge has created widespread fear and uncertainty among Minnesota residents, including those living and working in the City of Edina; and

**Whereas**, hospitals, schools, and the construction and service industries have reported that individuals are sheltering at home rather than risking unwarranted arrest or detention, resulting in lost wages and financial instability; and

**Whereas**, many vulnerable households are now facing an untenable choice between risking detention by going to work or risking eviction by remaining home without income, a circumstance not of their own making; and

**Whereas**, housing stability is essential to the health, safety, and well-being of residents and the broader community; and

**Whereas**, Emergency Rental Assistance provides a balanced approach by assisting in stabilizing households while ensuring property owners can continue to operate, maintain, and provide housing; and

**Whereas**, cities and nonprofit organizations with demonstrated experience are well positioned to distribute Emergency Rental Assistance efficiently and equitably, consistent with prior state-administered programs such as LAHA and SAHA;

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the City Council of the City of Edina, Minnesota, that the City strongly urges the Governor of Minnesota and the Minnesota Legislature to approve Emergency Rental Assistance funding as quickly as possible to address housing instability resulting from Operation Metro Surge; and

**Be it further resolved** that the City encourages the distribution of such funding to cities and qualified nonprofit organizations with relevant expertise to ensure timely and effective rental assistance to impacted households; and

**Be it further resolved** that the City of Edina directs the City Manager to transmit this resolution to Governor Tim Walz and appropriate state officials.

**Date:** February 4, 2026



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**Item Number:** 11.1

**Department:** Administration

**Item Activity:** Information

**Prepared By:** Sharon Allison, City Clerk

**Item Title:** Mayor Hovland to provide update on City Manager Neal's performance review

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**Action Requested:**

None, informational only.

**Information/Background:**

Mayor Hovland will provide an update on Manager Neal's performance review that took place on Jan. 26.

**Supporting Documentation:**

None